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County Borough of Wolverhampton

The
Health Services
of
Wolverhampton
in 1951

ANNUAL REPORT

by

J. F. GALLOWAY, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S.,
L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
and
School Medical Officer.

43.94
11.952

County Borough of Wolverhampton.



ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for

1951

J. F. GALLOWAY,
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D.P.M., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health
and
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PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

at 31st December, 1951.

| | | |
|---|-----|---|
| Medical Officer of Health ... | ... | J. F. Galloway, M.D., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.M., D.P.H. |
| Senior Assistant Medical Officer of Health ... | ... | W. C. Campbell, L.M.S.S.A. |
| Maternity & Child Welfare Senior Medical Officer ... | ... | A. J. M. Lesslie, M.A., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H. |
| Assistant Medical Officer ... | ... | M. G. Bryan, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.R.C.O.G., C.P.H. |
| Tuberculosis* ... | ... | A. Ogg, M.A., M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H. E. S. Frew, M.B., Ch.B. |
| Analyst ... | ... | F. G. D. Chalmers, M.A., B.Sc., F.I.C. (Part time). |
| Health Visiting Superintendent ... | ... | Miss D. E. Tonks. |
| Health Visitors ... | ... | 11. |
| Nurses ... | ... | 2. |
| Midwifery Supervisor ... | ... | Mrs. M. D. Gordon. |
| District Midwives ... | ... | 20 (One part time). |
| Home Nursing Superintendent ... | ... | Miss E. Hill. |
| Home Nurses ... | ... | 9 (One part time). |
| Mental Health Service Mental Deficiency Officer ... | ... | Miss E. Bottomley. |
| Duly Authorised Officers ... | ... | G. H. Morgan. F. L. Bird. |
| Occupation Centre Supervisor | | Miss H. Chettle. |
| Occupation Centre Assistants | | 3. |
| Home Help Service Organiser ... | ... | Miss M. Saunders. |
| Home Helps ... | ... | 30 (24 part time). |
| Day Nurseries Matrons ... | ... | Miss E. Fitzgerald. Miss W. M. Moss. |
| Nursery Assistants ... | ... | 22. |
| Domestic Staff ... | ... | 9 (3 part time). |
| After-Care Officer ... | ... | Miss E. H. Poole. |
| Sanitary Inspectors Chief Sanitary Inspector ... | ... | F. Binns Hartley, M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I. |
| Specialist Inspectors ... | ... | 7. |
| District Inspectors ... | ... | 9. |
| Clerical Chief Clerk ... | ... | J. Darby. |
| Clerks ... | ... | 19. |
| Clinic Clerks (part time) ... | ... | 7. |
| Other Staff Rodent Operatives ... | ... | 2. |
| Miscellaneous ... | ... | 3. |

*Jointly with Birmingham Regional Hospital Board.



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Health Offices,
59, Waterloo Road,
Wolverhampton.

July, 1952.

To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the County
Borough of Wolverhampton.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health of Wolverhampton for the year 1951.

The Fifteenth Census of the population of England and Wales was taken on the 8th April, 1951, and there were 162,669 persons in Wolverhampton of whom 51.3 per cent were females. In April, 1931, when the previous Census was taken, the population of Wolverhampton, which then occupied a considerably smaller area than today, was 133,190 ; at that time the population of the area now occupied by Wolverhampton was 138,631, of whom 51.8 per cent were females.

A severe epidemic of influenza affecting the whole country occurred at the beginning of the year. The outbreak was responsible for the increase in the number of deaths in Wolverhampton certified as due to influenza, and it also contributed to the greater number of deaths from bronchitis. The rise in the death rate which occurred during the year was due largely to this epidemic.

The infant mortality rate, which for half a century has tended to decline, was higher than that of the previous year. The rise was due to a substantial increase in the number of deaths from gastro-enteritis of infants under six months old, and as eighty per cent of the children died in hospital their deaths could not be attributed to lack of treatment. This increase is a timely reminder that if low infant mortality rates are to persist, efforts to prevent infantile disease must be unremitting.

The death rate from tuberculosis continued the downward trend of recent years, and again was the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton, although still above the rate for England and Wales. A further 20 beds for the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis became available at the Isolation Hospital, Birmingham Road, and they have been fully occupied. The increase in organised domiciliary treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis has added materially to the responsibilities of the Home Nursing Service.

The maternity and child welfare work of the department increased substantially. The large attendances at the additional clinic opened in June at Masefield Road, near the Underhill Estate, show that it meets an urgent need. New cases attending ante-natal clinics increased so much that the total for the year was higher than before the National Health Service came into operation, indicating that the scheme devised two years ago to co-ordinate the efforts of general practitioners, midwives and clinics is proving successful. During the year, the Hospital Management Committee sought the co-operation of the Health Department, which was willingly given, in selecting cases for admission on social grounds to the Beeches Maternity Home.

Many more new houses are required to meet the needs of 6,000 applicants on the waiting list and to replace the similar number of obsolescent dwellings referred to by the Chief Sanitary Inspector in this report. Higher wages, longevity and smaller families are combining to alter materially the requirements of the present day tenant; in the last 20 years the average number of persons in each house in Wolverhampton has declined from 4.3 to 3.6, and if the present demand could be satisfied by the immediate erection of 6,000 houses, the average number in each house would decline further to 3.2 persons.

The cost of hospital and specialist services throughout England and Wales in 1951-52 amounted to £5 9s. od. a head; in Wolverhampton the Executive Council spent £3 4s. od. a

head on the provision of general practitioner, dental and ophthalmic services and on the provision of medicine and appliances, and in addition patients themselves contributed a further 3/- a head towards the cost of the dental and ophthalmic services ; the Local Health Authority, which is the Wolverhampton Town Council, spent 2/8d. a head on the ambulance service and 8/6d. a head on other local health authority services including domiciliary midwifery, home nursing, domestic help and the provision of day nurseries. The proportion of the 8/6d. a head devoted to the preventive services classed as the care of mothers and young children, health visiting, vaccination and immunisation, and the prevention, care and after-care of tuberculous, mental and other diseases was 3/1d. a head.

I wish to express my appreciation of the co-operation of the staff of the Health Department throughout the year, and to thank those of them who have assisted me in the compilation of this report. On their behalf, as well as my own, I express thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest, encouragement and support.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

J. F. GALLOWAY,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section I.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

A. Summary of Statistics.

1. Comparison of Statistics.

| | 1921. | 1931. | 1941. | 1950. | 1951. |
|---|----------|----------|----------|------------|------------|
| Population | 104,000 | 134,400 | 144,920 | 162,100 | 162,000 |
| Area in acres | 3,525 | 7,105 | 9,113 | 9,113 | 9,120 |
| Inhabited houses | 21,609 | 31,500 | 40,782 | 44,176 | 44,980 |
| Birth Rate | 24.9 | 17.1 | 17.5 | 16.8 | 17.5 |
| Death Rate | 12.1 | 11.9 | 11.2 | 11.0 | 11.5 |
| Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births) | 88. | 69. | 50. | 36. | 40. |
| Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total births) | — | 40.5 | 30.9 | 25.1 | 24. |
| Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) | 7.1* | 2.18 | 2.26 | 1.07 | 0.3 |
| Cancer Death Rate | 1.21 | 1.31 | 1.52 | 1.68 | 1.6 |
| Tuberculosis Death Rate | 0.88 | 0.93 | 0.66 | 0.54 | 0.5 |
| Pulmonary only | 0.76 | 0.78 | 0.52 | 0.45 | 0.4 |
| Rateable Value | £509,304 | £729,560 | £972,269 | £1,052,764 | £1,071,755 |
| Product of Penny Rate | £1,921 | £2,800 | £3,823 | £4,256 | £4,340 |

* Per 1,000 live births.

II

2. Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1951.

| | | | |
|--|--|---------|--------|
| Area of Borough | 9,126 acres. | | |
| Population (Registrar-General's mid-year estimate) | 162,000. | | |
| Number of Inhabited Houses (31st March, 1951) | 44,983 | | |
| Rateable value (31st March, 1951) | £1,071,754. | | |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | £4,346. | | |
| | Male. | Female. | Total. |
| Live births | | | |
| Legitimate | 1,392 | 1,285 | 2,677 |
| Illegitimate | 57 | 52 | 109 |
| Total | 1,449 | 1,337 | 2,786 |
| | 17.2 per 1,000 population. | | |
| Still births | | | |
| Legitimate | 41 | 22 | 63 |
| Illegitimate | 3 | 4 | 7 |
| Total | 44 | 26 | 70 |
| | 0.43 per 1,000 population. | | |
| | 24.5 per 1,000 total births. | | |
| Deaths | 1,007 | 909 | 1,916 |
| Natural Increase | | | 870 |
| Infantile Mortality | | | |
| Legitimate | 56 | 47 | 103 |
| | 38.5 per 1,000 live legitimate births. | | |
| Illegitimate | 7 | 2 | 9 |
| | 82.6 per 1,000 live illegitimate births. | | |
| Total | 63 | 49 | 112 |
| | 40.2 per 1,000 live births. | | |
| Maternal Mortality | | | |
| Abortion with sepsis | — | | |
| Abortion without sepsis | — | | |
| Puerperal infection | — | | |
| Other maternal causes | 1 | | |
| Total | | 1 | |
| | 0.35 per 1,000 total births. | | |
| Deaths from Tuberculosis | | | |
| Pulmonary | 53 | 25 | 78 |
| Non-pulmonary | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| All forms | 55 | 27 | 82 |
| | 0.51 per 1,000 population. | | |
| Deaths from Infectious Diseases | | | |
| Influenza | 40 | 31 | 71 |
| Meningococcal infections | 1 | — | 1 |
| Acute poliomyelitis | — | — | — |
| Infantile diarrhoea | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| Whooping cough | — | 3 | 3 |
| Scarlet fever | — | — | — |
| Measles | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — |
| Enteric | — | — | — |
| Deaths from Cancer | 146 | 120 | 266 |
| | 1.64 per 1,000 population. | | |
| Area Comparability Factors | | | |
| Births | | 0.97 | |
| Deaths | | 1.12 | |

TABLE I.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1951 (R.G.).

| CAUSES OF DEATH. | Net Deaths at the subjoined ages of Residents within the Borough. | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------------|--------------------|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | All ages. | Under 1 year. | 1 and under 5 yrs. | 5 and under 15 yrs. | 15 and under 45 yrs. | 45 and under 65 yrs. | 65 and under 75 yrs. |
| All causes | 1916 | 112 | 14 | 10 | 155 | 456 | 502 |
| Tuberculosis, Respiratory | 78 | — | — | — | 39 | 27 | 9 |
| Tuberculosis, other ... | 4 | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 | — |
| Syphilitic Disease ... | 9 | — | — | — | — | 4 | 1 |
| Diphtheria | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Meningococcal Infections | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | — | — | — |
| Other Infective and | | | | | | | |
| Parasitic Diseases ... | 5 | — | 2 | — | 2 | 1 | — |
| Cancer of Stomach ... | 59 | — | — | — | 1 | 22 | 21 |
| Cancer of Lung, | | | | | | | |
| Bronchus | 38 | — | — | — | 2 | 25 | 8 |
| Cancer of Breast ... | 15 | — | — | — | 2 | 8 | 2 |
| Cancer of Uterus ... | 9 | — | — | — | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Other Malignant and | | | | | | | |
| Lymphatic Neoplasms | 134 | — | 2 | 1 | 11 | 49 | 33 |
| Leukaemia & Aleukaemia | 11 | — | 1 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 1 |
| Diabetes | 9 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 4 |
| Vascular Lesions of | | | | | | | |
| Nervous System ... | 226 | — | — | — | 4 | 47 | 80 |
| Coronary Disease & | | | | | | | |
| Angina | 120 | — | — | — | 6 | 39 | 44 |
| Hypertension with | | | | | | | |
| Heart Disease ... | 63 | — | — | — | 3 | 16 | 23 |
| Other Heart Disease ... | 364 | — | — | — | 19 | 57 | 94 |
| Other Circulatory | | | | | | | |
| Disease | 37 | — | — | — | 1 | 3 | 15 |
| Influenza | 71 | 1 | — | — | 3 | 20 | 24 |
| Pneumonia | 73 | 8 | 1 | — | 3 | 29 | 13 |
| Bronchitis | 167 | 2 | — | — | 3 | 32 | 57 |
| Other Respiratory | | | | | | | |
| Diseases | 16 | 1 | — | 1 | — | 4 | 2 |
| Ulcer of Stomach, | | | | | | | |
| Duodenum | 25 | — | — | — | 5 | 7 | 13 |
| Gastritis, Enteritis and | | | | | | | |
| Diarrhoea | 26 | 15 | 1 | — | — | 1 | 1 |
| Nephritis, Nephrosis ... | 13 | — | — | — | 2 | 7 | 2 |
| Hyperplasia of Prostate | 19 | — | — | — | — | 3 | 7 |
| Pregnancy, Childbirth, | | | | | | | |
| Abortion | 1 | — | — | — | 1 | — | — |
| Congenital Malformations | 11 | 7 | — | 1 | 3 | — | — |
| Other Defined & | | | | | | | |
| Illdefined Diseases ... | 242 | 67 | 4 | 1 | 22 | 28 | 35 |
| Motor Vehicle Accidents | 16 | — | 1 | 2 | 8 | 4 | — |
| All Other Accidents ... | 28 | 6 | — | — | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| Suicide | 20 | — | — | 1 | 4 | 9 | 5 |
| Homicide & Operations | | | | | | | |
| of War | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |

B. General Statistics.

1. Area.

In the preliminary Report of the Registrar General on the Census taken on 8th April, 1951, the area of the Borough was given as 9,126 acres compared with 9,113 acres formerly given. Apparently this increase of 13 acres represents a correction in the areas of the Penn and Wrottesley Parishes transferred under the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1932.

2. Population.

At the Census, the population consisted of 79,210 males and 83,459 females, a total of 162,669. In the 1931 Census there were 138,631 people living in the area which now is covered by Wolverhampton.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population, as at 30th June, 1951, was 162,000.

3. Inhabited Houses.

At the 31st March, 1951, there were 44,983 inhabited houses, an increase of 807 in a year. The types of premises, their numbers, and the increase or decrease, if any, in a year were :—

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----------------|
| Domestic | ... | ... | ... | ... | 42,905 (+ 810) |
| House Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1,721 (— 4) |
| Off-Licences | ... | ... | .. | ... | 52 |
| Unlicensed Hotels and Boarding Houses | | | | | 7 |
| Licensed Premises | . | ... | ... | | 298 (+ 1) |

4. Births.

The live births consisted of 1,449 males and 1,337 females, a total of 2,786 (which is 63 more than in 1950), giving a birth rate of 17.2 per 1,000 population. The birth rate for the 126 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London) was 17.3 and for the whole of England and Wales it was 15.5.

Of these 2,786 births, 109 or 3.9% were illegitimate. Last year the proportion was 5.1%.

5. Still-births.

These numbered 70 (of which 7 were illegitimate). These 70 represented rates of 24.5 per 1,000 births (live and still-born) and 0.43 still-births per 1,000 population. The still-birth rate for the 126 Great Towns was 0.45 per 1,000 population, and for the whole of England and Wales it was 0.36.

6. Marriages.

The number of marriages registered in Wolverhampton during the year was 1,517.

7. Deaths.

The number of deaths, comprising 1,007 males and 909 females, was 1916 (an increase of 136 when compared with the previous year) giving a death rate of 11.8 per 1,000 population. The death rate for the 126 Great Towns was 13.4 per 1,000 population, and for the whole of England and Wales it was 12.5.

The principal causes of death were :—

| | |
|--|----------------------------|
| (a) Diseases of the heart and circulation, | |
| Heart disease | 364 |
| Vascular lesions of nervous system | 226 |
| Coronary disease, angina | 120 |
| Hypertension with heart disease | 63 |
| Other circulatory disease | 37 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 810 (42.3% of all deaths). |
| (b) Cancer | 266 (13.9% of all deaths). |
| (c) Diseases of the Respiratory Tract, | |
| Pneumonia | 73 |
| Bronchitis | 167 |
| Other respiratory diseases | 16 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 256 (13.4% of all deaths). |
| (d) Tuberculosis, all forms | 82 (4.3% of all deaths). |
| (e) Influenza | 71 (3.7% of all deaths). |
| (f) Suicide and Violence, | |
| Suicide | 20 |
| Motor vehicle accidents | 16 |
| All other accidents ... | 28 |
| | <hr/> |
| | 64 (3.3% of all deaths). |

8. Infant Mortality.

There were nine deaths of illegitimate infants under one year of age (or 82.6 deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births) and 103 deaths of legitimate infants (or 38.5 per 1,000 legitimate live births). The total of 112 infant deaths represents an infant mortality rate of 40.2 per 1,000 live births, substantially above the previous year's figure of 35.6. The rate for the 126 Great Towns was 33.9 per 1,000 live births.

Of the 112 deaths under one year of age, 66 (i.e., 59%) occurred within the first month of life ; the neo-natal mortality rate, i.e., the number of deaths of infants under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births, was 23.7.

An increase in the number of deaths from gastro-enteritis was a substantial factor in the higher infant mortality rate.

9. Maternal Mortality.

One maternal death in 2,856 live and still-births gave a maternal mortality rate of 0.35 per 1,000 total (live and still) births. The rate for England and Wales was 0.79.

10. Deaths from Tuberculosis.

There were 82 deaths from tuberculosis, representing a tuberculosis death rate of 0.51 per 1,000 population, the lowest ever recorded in Wolverhampton but still substantially above that of the 126 Great Towns which was 0.37, and that for England and Wales which was 0.31.

Pulmonary tuberculosis was responsible for 78 of these deaths, or 5 more than the previous year ; 53 of the deaths were of males, and of these, 38% occurred before the age of 45 years ; 25 of the deaths were of females, and of these, 76% occurred before the age of 45 years.

The deaths due to non-pulmonary tuberculosis were 4, or 10 less than the previous year ; two of the deaths were of adults and two were of young children ; all died of tuberculous meningitis or disseminated tuberculosis.

11. Deaths from Infectious and Notifiable Diseases.

There were 73 deaths from pneumonia (representing 0.45 per 1,000 population), but only a small proportion of these deaths occurred among the 216 cases of acute pneumonia which were notified ; the majority of patients who died from pneumonia presumably suffered from the disease as a terminal complication.

There were 71 deaths from influenza (0.44 per 1,000 population), nine from syphilitic disease (0.56 per 1,000), three from whooping cough (0.19 per 1,000), three from measles, one from meningococcal meningitis (0.06 per 1,000) and one each from streptococcal laryngitis, infective hepatitis, encephalitis and Reiter's disease.

There were also 26 deaths (0.16 per 1,000) from gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea, of which 16 (5.7 per 1,000 live births) were under 2 years of age.

12. Deaths from Cancer.

There were 266 deaths from cancer, giving a death rate of 1.64 per 1,000 population. Of these deaths, 146 occurred in males and the most frequent sites of the disease were the stomach (32 cases), the lungs and bronchi (31) the large intestine (18) and the rectum (11). Among the 120 deaths which occurred in females, the most frequent sites of the disease were the stomach (27 cases), the large intestine (18), the breast (15), the rectum (11) and the uterus (9).

C. Natural and Social Conditions.

1. Situation.

Wolverhampton stands astride a ridge which is the watershed between the Severn and the Trent. To the east side of the ridge the land slopes down to and merges with the industrial area of the Black Country, and to the west it spreads out to the Shropshire plain. The highest points in the borough are Bushbury Hill to the north and Colton Hills in Upper

Penn to the south, each about 600 feet above sea level. The lowest parts, in the vicinity of the airport and racecourse, are slightly less than 350 feet above sea level.

2. Meteorology.

The chief meteorological features of 1951 were excessive and frequent rain, lack of really hot days, and the poor holiday months of August and September.

The total rainfall recorded at West Park, 34.12 inches, was approximately 6 inches above the average for the last fifty years. November had the greatest rainfall (6.90 inches) followed by March and August each with over 4 inches. June, July and October were relatively dry, July being the driest month of the year (0.91 inches). Snow occurred in January.

The hottest day was 22nd July with a shade temperature of 78.2° , and the lowest recorded temperature was 24.8° on 30th January.

3. Water Supply.

The Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking provides a water supply derived from four sources. Cosford Works provide 4 million gallons daily, Tettenhall Works over a million gallons, Dimmingsdale Works $2\frac{1}{2}$ million gallons and Hilton Works 3 million gallons daily.

The water from Cosford has a low fluorine content. Fluorine is absent from the other waters.

4. Occupations.

The principal occupations in Wolverhampton, arranged according to the numbers employed, are general metals (including manufacture and secondary processes and products), mechanical engineering (especially vehicles), commerce (mainly distributive), transport and communications (mainly rail and omnibus), electrical engineering, building, rubber

(tyres), textiles (rayon), professional services (mainly educational), public administration (national and local government) and personal services (mostly private domestic service, hotels and restaurants).

5. Unemployment.

Unemployment remained negligible in amount and was mainly among the unskilled and the aged and it could not be attributed to any particular industry. The average figure over the whole year was 0.4% of the total employees in Wolverhampton, which compared favourably with 1.2% for Great Britain.

SECTION II.

HEALTH SERVICES OF THE AREA.

A. Hospital, Specialist and Allied Services.

1. Hospitals.

The Wolverhampton Hospital Management Committee is responsible for institutions and clinics in an area extending from Wolverhampton to Bridgnorth, Much Wenlock, Broseley and Shifnal and containing a population estimated to be 350,000. Some details of those in or near Wolverhampton follow.

The Royal Hospital, Cleveland Road, has 310 beds. It provides general medical and surgical treatment and it also has special departments.

The Children's Hospital, Penn, has 30 beds.

The Women's Hospital, Park Road West and Bath Road Annexe have 77 beds. Gynaecological and complicated maternity cases are admitted.

Queen Victoria Nursing Institution, Bath Road, has 43 beds which are used for private patients.

Patshull Residential Rehabilitation Centre, Patshull House, has 60 beds ; selected accident cases from the area are admitted.

Sister Dora Convalescent Hospital, Milford, has 24 beds, used for post-operative male patients who require nursing.

The Women's Convalescent Hospital, The Old House, Penn, has 14 beds used for post-operative female patients who require nursing.

Wolverhampton and Midland Counties Eye Infirmary has 95 beds and is used for ophthalmic cases only.

The Isolation Hospital, Birmingham Road, has 63 beds. The reconditioning of a pavilion was completed during the year and it was opened in October as a ward of 20 beds for men suffering from tuberculosis. This is in addition to the ward of 16 beds for women opened in 1950.

The Beeches Maternity Home, Tettenhall Road, has 16 beds. It admits normal cases whose home conditions make institutional confinement desirable and whose own practitioners are willing to attend them in the maternity home.

New Cross Hospital has 636 beds (including 257 mental hospital beds) for the treatment of general medical and surgical cases, diseases of children, maternity patients, isolation cases, the chronic sick and mental patients. In addition, accommodation serviced by the Hospital for 586 persons who are the responsibility of Wolverhampton Corporation under Part III of the National Assistance Act is provided in buildings formerly known as New Cross Institution and now known as "The Poplars."

2. Sanatoria.

There is no hospital accommodation in the area built specially for the treatment of tuberculosis, and pulmonary cases which are able to obtain sanatorium treatment usually receive it at Prestwood Sanatorium or Kinver. In view of the shortage of sanatorium accommodation, the 36 beds in the Isolation Hospital which are now available for tuberculous patients are in constant use.

Tuberculous cases requiring orthopaedic treatment usually obtain it at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

3. Chest Clinic.

The Bell Street Clinic provides facilities for Wolverhampton and District. The Hospital Management Committee hopes to extend these inadequate premises.

4. Venereal Diseases Clinic.

This is situated at the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton, and serves both Wolverhampton and the surrounding district.

5. Nursing Homes.

Three private maternity homes together contain 35 beds and three private nursing homes contain 23 beds.

6. Bacteriology.

Laboratory facilities are available at the Medical Research Council's Public Health Laboratory, Stafford, and at the Pathological Laboratory of the Royal Hospital, Wolverhampton.

B. Local Executive Council Services.

1. General Medical Service.

At the end of March, 1952, 160,710 people living in Wolverhampton were on doctors' lists, representing 99% of the population. Their medical care was undertaken by 102 principal and 15 assistant medical practitioners, 64 of whom live within, and practise from 57 surgeries within the borough.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1952 was £159,148, equivalent to 19/7d. a head of the population.

2. Pharmaceutical Service.

There were at the end of March, 1952 under contract with the Executive Council 41 firms or persons (33 in the borough) having 60 places of business (46 in the borough) dispensing all medicines, 2 firms or persons (both in the borough) supplying drugs not required to be dispensed and 12 firms or persons (8 in the borough) supplying appliances.

The cost of this service for the year ending 31st March, 1952 was £157,142, equivalent to 19/4d. a head of the population.

3. Dental Service.

At the end of March, 1952, there were 42 dental practitioners on the Executive Council's list.

The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March, 1952 was £156,529, and to the patients £10,517, being equivalent to 19/3d. and 1/4d. per head per annum respectively.

4. Ophthalmic Service.

The service enables a patient to have his sight tested by either an ophthalmic medical practitioner or an ophthalmic optician and then, if glasses are necessary, to have them provided either by an ophthalmic optician or a dispensing optician. There were at the end of March, 1952 under contract with the Executive Council 9 ophthalmic medical practitioners, 12 ophthalmic opticians and 7 dispensing opticians. Dr. Jevons, Assistant School Medical Officer, is one of the ophthalmic medical practitioners and prescribes spectacles for school children who require them.

The cost to the Executive Council for the year ending 31st March, 1952 was £38,190, and to the patients £13,663 being equivalent to 4/8d. and 1/8d. respectively per head of the population per annum.

5. General.

The cost of administration for the year ending 31st March, 1952, was £10,401, equivalent to 1/3d. a head of the population. The total cost of the services therefore was £521,410, equivalent to £3 4s. 1d. a head of the population. In addition, the cost to the patients was £24,180, equivalent to 3/- a head of the population.

C. Local Authority Health Services.

1. Clinics.

At the beginning of the year the infants and toddlers clinic at Lea Road on Monday afternoon was discontinued, and the

cases transferred to the Tuesday and Friday afternoon clinics. During the year the Masefield Road Clinic was opened to serve the new Underhill Estate, providing an ante-natal clinic in the morning and an afternoon clinic for infants on Monday of each week. The Tuesday morning ante-natal clinic at Lowe Street was discontinued, and the cases were transferred to the Stafford Street Wednesday morning clinic. The Wednesday afternoon immunisation sessions held at Park Lane, Lea Road and Lowe Street were discontinued early in the year, and immunisations were carried out at the normal infant welfare sessions.

Below is a list of clinics held during the year :—

| Ante-natal. | Infants & Toddlers. |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Fordhouses, Monday 9 a.m. | Fordhouses, Monday & Friday 2 p.m. |
| Park Lane, Tuesday & Friday 9 a.m. | Park Lane, Tuesday & Friday 2 p.m. |
| Lr. Stafford St., Wednesday 9 a.m. | Lowe St., Tuesday 2 p.m. |
| St. Oswalds, Wednesday 9 a.m. | Lr. Stafford St., Wednesday 2 p.m. |
| Ward St., Thursday 9 a.m. | St. Oswalds, Wednesday & Thursday 2 p.m. |
| Lea Road, Thursday & Friday 9 a.m. | Ward St., Monday & Thursday 2 p.m. |
| Masefield Rd., Monday 9 a.m. | Lea Road, Tuesday & Friday 2 p.m. |
| | Masefield Road, Monday 2 p.m. |
| Post-natal Clinic. | Family Planning Clinic. |
| Lowe Street, Thursday 2 p.m. | Lowe Street, Monday 2 p.m. |

2. Care of Mothers and Children.

(a) **Births and Still Births.** There were 2,756 infants born alive during the year to parents normally resident in Wolverhampton ; of these infants 1,437 were born at home and 1,319 in institutions.

The still births numbered 68, and of these 24 were born at home and 44 in institutions.

(b) **Infant Deaths.** There were 126 deaths of children under the age of five years ; of these, 112 failed to survive the first year and of these, 66 failed to survive the first month. The causes of death are given below :—

| Cause of Death. | 0—4 Weeks. | 1—12 Months. | 1—4 Years. |
|-------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| Prematurity | 22 | — | — |
| Atelectasis | 15 | — | — |
| Asphyxia neonatorum | 2 | — | — |
| Congenital abnormalities | 4 | 3 | — |
| Cerebral birth injuries | 7 | — | — |
| Toxaemia from maternal toxaemia | 1 | — | — |
| Haemorrhagic disease of the newborn | 5 | — | — |
| Haemorrhage into myocardium ... | 1 | — | — |
| Haemolytic disease of the newborn | 2 | — | — |
| Chronic haemolytic anaemia ... | — | 1 | — |
| Gastro-enteritis | 1 | 12 | 1 |
| Enteritis | — | 2 | — |
| Appendicitis | — | — | 1 |
| Marasmus | — | 1 | — |
| Pneumonia | 2 | 6 | 1 |
| Bronchitis | 2 | — | — |
| Stridulous laryngitis | — | 1 | — |
| Mastoiditis | — | 1 | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | 2 | 1 |
| Measles | — | 2 | 1 |
| Influenza | — | 1 | — |
| Influenzal meningitis | — | — | 1 |
| Pyogenic meningitis | — | 1 | 1 |
| Pneumococcal meningitis | — | 1 | — |
| Disseminated tuberculosis ... | — | 1 | — |
| Encephalitis | — | — | 1 |
| Convulsions teething | — | 1 | — |
| Mongolism | 1 | 1 | — |
| Mental deficiency with epilepsy | — | — | 1 |
| Status epilepticus | — | — | 1 |
| Eczema | — | 1 | — |
| Pyelitis | — | 1 | — |
| Osteomyelitis of pelvis | — | 1 | — |
| Acute leukaemia | — | — | 1 |
| Reticulosis | — | — | 1 |
| Primary carcinoma of liver ... | — | — | 1 |
| Status lymphaticus | — | 1 | — |
| Accidental asphyxia | 1 | 4 | — |
| Road accident | — | — | 1 |
| Other accident | — | 1 | — |
| | 66 | 46 | 14 |

(c) **Premature Babies.** During the year 182 babies were born weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less. Of these, 80 were born at home, 13 in private nursing homes and 89 in National Health Service hospitals; 13 of the babies born at home were transferred subsequently to hospital and the remaining 67 were nursed entirely at home. The premature baby nurse visited the homes to assist and advise the mothers.

The weights of the babies born at home were :—

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| Under 2 lbs. 3 ozs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| 2 lbs. 3 ozs.—3 lbs. 4 ozs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| 3 lbs. 4 ozs.—4 lbs. 6 ozs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 17 |
| 4 lbs. 6 ozs.—4 lbs. 15 ozs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 |
| 4 lbs. 15 ozs.—5 lbs. 8 ozs. | ... | ... | ... | ... | 38 |
| | | | | | — |
| | | | | | 80 |
| | | | | | — |

Of the 67 babies nursed entirely at home, 54 survived the first 28 days ; of the 13 born in private nursing homes, 8 survived the first 28 days.

The premature baby nurse paid 1,086 visits to premature babies born at home and 385 visits to premature babies discharged from hospitals or nursing homes. In addition, she paid special visits to weakly infants requiring special care.

Suitable hospital provision was not always available in Wolverhampton, and premature babies occasionally had to be sent to Birmingham for hospital care.

(d) Illegitimate Children. There were 109 illegitimate children born alive during the year ; of these, 57 were males and 52 females ; there were also 7 illegitimate still births.

The local authority does not maintain a home for expectant mothers, but made grants to the Legge Home (£246) and the Hay Home (£50). When required, patients are admitted to Diocesan Moral Welfare, or Roman Catholic or Salvation Army Homes ; necessary financial assistance is given to meet the charges.

During the year, 57 cases applied to the department for help. Of these, 8 applications were subsequently withdrawn, 13 were referred elsewhere, 6 had not been dealt with by the end of the year and one girl moved to another area. The remaining 29 cases along with a further 14 cases carried forward from 1950 were dealt with, making a total of 43. Of these, 25 were admitted to moral welfare homes and financial assistance was given to 5 of them by the local health authority.

In 27 cases the mother kept her baby, in 9 cases it was placed for adoption, in 5 cases it was placed in a residential nursery, in one case the mother married the putative father and in one case the child was still-born.

(e) **Child Welfare Centres.** Each week 13 sessions were held for infants and toddlers. The total attendance at these sessions was appreciably higher than in the previous year due to the increased number of infants attending for the first time. The welfare centres are now being more fully used for the purpose for which they were intended, which is the giving of advice with regard to the feeding and management of the child and to matters pertaining to the prevention of disease.

Vaccinations and immunisations were carried out at the usual infant welfare sessions. (See Table II).

(f) **Day Nurseries.** Both nurseries, which were fully staffed during the year, continued to provide facilities for the training of nursery students for the Certificate of the Nursery Nurses Examination Board.

In the period under review, 26 children at the Woodlands Day Nursery and 24 children at Birmingham Road Day Nursery were immunised against diphtheria. Infectious diseases occurring in the nurseries during the year were :—

| | | | | The Woodlands. Birmingham Road. | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------|----|
| Measles | .. | ... | . | 33 | 17 |
| Rubella | ... | ... | ... | 1 | — |
| Mumps | ... | ... | ... | 2 | — |
| Whooping cough | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 1 |
| Chickenpox | ... | ... | ... | 1 | 2 |

The following is a summary of the attendances at the nurseries during the year :—

| | | | | The Woodlands. Birmingham Road. | |
|--|-----|----|----|---------------------------------|-------|
| Number of days open | ... | | | 251 | 251 |
| Attendances under 2 years | .. | | | 3,035 | 2,603 |
| Attendances 2—5 years | .. | | | 9,556 | 4,127 |
| Average daily attendance under 2 years | ... | .. | | 12.1 | 10.4 |
| Average daily attendance 2—5 years | .. | .. | .. | 38.1 | 16.4 |

TABLE II.

| | Ford-Houses | Lea Rd. | Lowe St. | Park Lane | St. Oswalds | Stafford St. | Ward St. | Masefield Rd. | Totals |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|---------|----------|-----------|-------------|--------------|----------|---------------|--------|
| INFANTS. | | | | | | | | | |
| No. of sessions ... | 100 | 100 | 48 | 99 | 101 | 51 | 101 | 29 | 629 |
| New cases under 1 year ... | 275 | 316 | 136 | 297 | 164 | 137 | 246 | 106 | 1,677 |
| New cases over 1 year ... | 44 | 46 | 77 | 28 | 26 | 19 | 54 | 52 | 346 |
| Attendances under 1 year ... | 2,445 | 3,478 | 1,504 | 2,670 | 2,037 | 1,115 | 1,782 | 460 | 15,491 |
| Attendances over 1 year ... | 461 | 639 | 256 | 517 | 298 | 205 | 471 | 93 | 2,940 |
| Total Attendances ... | 2,906 | 4,117 | 1,760 | 3,187 | 2,335 | 1,320 | 2,253 | 553 | 18,431 |
| Average Attendances per Session ... | 29.1 | 41.2 | 36.7 | 32.2 | 23.1 | 25.9 | 22.3 | 19.1 | 29.3 |
| ANTE-NATAL. | | | | | | | | | |
| No. of sessions ... | 49 | 103 | 12 | 99 | 50 | 51 | 52 | 29 | 445 |
| New cases ... | 249 | 385 | 23 | 317 | 140 | 278 | 295 | 122 | 1,809 |
| Total Attendances ... | 1,046 | 2,007 | 89 | 1,200 | 718 | 1,338 | 1,284 | 479 | 8,161 |
| Average Attendances per session ... | 21.3 | 19.5 | 7.4 | 12.1 | 14.4 | 26.2 | 24.7 | 16.5 | 18.3 |

POST-NATAL CLINIC.

(Lowe Street)

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----|
| No. of Sessions ... | 50 |
| New Cases ... | 81 |
| Attendances ... | 195 |
| Average Attendance per Session ... | 3.9 |

FAMILY PLANNING CLINIC.

(Lowe Street)

| | |
|------------------------------------|------|
| No. of Sessions ... | 47 |
| New Cases ... | 162 |
| Attendances ... | 687 |
| Average Attendance per Session ... | 14.6 |

(g) **Orthopaedic Clinic.** Children under the age of five suffering from orthopaedic defects are referred to the orthopaedic clinic at Ward Street where they are seen in the first instance by the orthopaedic surgeon. Children requiring exercises or massage come under the care of the physiotherapist at the clinic.

During the year 994 attendances were made by 312 children of whom 97 were attending for the first time.

(h) **Ultra-Violet Light Clinic.** Children suffering from debility and other conditions for which ultra-violet light is regarded as likely to be beneficial are referred by the medical officers at the infant welfare clinics to the special clinics held twice weekly at Ward Street. These were suspended for a time due to shortage of staff.

During the year, 212 cases made 821 attendances.

(i) **Ophthalmia Neonatorum.** Only two cases were notified. In neither case was there any impairment of vision.

3. **Priority Dental Service.**

Expectant and nursing mothers who wish to make use of the facilities provided by the local health authority are able to have dental treatment at the Women's Hospital. During the year 33 patients received treatment.

Owing to the depletion of the dental staff of the local authority it has been impossible to bring into operation the scheme whereby the local authority's dental surgeons provide treatment for expectant mothers. They have, however, given dental treatment to 560 children under 5 years of age during the year.

Details are given in the accompanying table.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

(a) Numbers provided with dental care :

| | Examined | Needing Treatment | Treated | Made Dentally Fit |
|-----------------------------|----------|-------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Expectant & Nursing Mothers | 33 | 33 | 33 | 26 |
| Children under five | 619 | 603 | 560 | 19 |

(b) Forms of dental treatment provided :

| | Extractions | Anæsthetics | | Fillings | Scalings or Scaling and Gum Treatment | Silver Nitrate Treatment | Dressings | Radio graphs | Dentures Provided | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------|----------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-------------------|---------|
| | | Local | General | | | | | | Complete | Partial |
| Expectant & Nursing mothers | 147 | 51 | 10 | - | 6 | - | - | - | 9 | - |
| Children under five | 1213 | 19 | 578 | 6 | - | - | 3 | - | - | - |

4. Midwifery.

(a) **General Provision.** During the year 3,852 confinements took place in the borough. Of these, 1,461 were conducted in the mothers' homes, 1,754 were conducted in institutions and 637 in private nursing homes.

Notifications of intention to practise in Wolverhampton were received from :—

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------|----|
| (i) trained midwives in institutions | ... | 45 |
| (ii) municipal midwives | ... .. | 23 |
| (iii) independent midwives | ... .. | 3 |
| (iv) maternity nurses | ... .. | 10 |

(b) **Municipal Midwives.** At the end of the year there were 19 full-time and one part-time municipal midwives practising. They attended 1,234 cases as midwives and 169 cases as

maternity nurses, the doctor being present at 12 per cent of deliveries. Altogether, 26,176 visits were paid by domiciliary midwives to women delivered at home ; in addition, over 200 cases delivered in hospital and discharged before the fourteenth day were visited by municipal midwives during the remainder of the lying-in period.

Gas and air, which all municipal midwives are qualified to give, was administered to 499 women. In addition, 51 patients received general anaesthetics, 232 had trilene, and pethidine was given to 909.

(c) Ante-natal Clinics. Ante-natal clinics were attended during the year by 1,809 new cases, and an average of four attendances was paid by each patient. The number of new cases was nearly double that of the previous year and exceeded the previous maximum of the year 1947 when 1,697 new cases were registered.

The dwindling in numbers attending ante-natal clinics which was in evidence throughout the country following the advent of the Health Service in 1948, has, in this area at any rate, happily proved to be of short duration. It will be remembered that since 1949 three ante-natal clinic sessions were discontinued and the sudden increase of attendances this year has placed a strain on the clinic staff. It will be necessary in the near future to consider the re-opening of additional ante-natal sessions.

The co-operation between patient, midwife, general practitioner, hospital and clinic, outlined in the previous report, has continued to work smoothly.

(d) Post-natal Clinic. The weekly session continued to be held at Lowe Street infant welfare centre ; 50 sessions were held during the year ; there were 81 new patients and 195 attendances were made.

(e) Puerperal Pyrexia. During the year, 48 cases of puerperal pyrexia were notified, 42 by doctors in hospital, and 6 by general practitioners. Of the latter 6 cases, 1 was subsequently transferred to hospital.

(f) **Maternal Mortality.** During the year, 5 maternal deaths were reported, all of which occurred in hospital. Four of the patients lived outside the area but had been admitted to a local hospital for their confinements.

The death of the Wolverhampton resident was due to post-partum haemorrhage and retained placenta.

(g) **Maternity Packs.** The distribution of maternity packs for women being confined at home and taking advantage of the National Health Service was carried out at the Lea Road welfare centre. Some women did not apply for a pack until after the birth, and providing they were entitled to do so and application was made within 7 days of the birth, maternity sets were distributed containing material necessary in the lying-in period.

Altogether, 1,485 maternity packs, 108 sets of hospital pads and 36 lbs. of cotton wool were distributed.

(h) **Family Planning Clinic.** Married women referred by medical practitioners are admitted to the clinic held weekly at Lowe Street welfare centre where they are advised on methods of birth control. Women attending for the first time numbered 162 and a total of 687 attendances was made.

5. Health Visiting.

During the year the staff was brought up to full strength by the arrival of 3 new health visitors who had been appointed under the scheme for subsidising their training. One further pupil health visitor was appointed to undergo training.

Details of the effective visits during 1951 are given below :—

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|
| Expectant mothers | .. | ... | ... | 284 |
| Infants | ... | ... | ... | 7,198 |
| Children (1 to 5 years) | .. | .. | ... | 10,390 |
| Infectious diseases | .. | ... | ... | 2,123 |
| Special visits | . | ... | ... | 2,394 |
| Tuberculosis visits | .. | ... | ... | 413 |
| Total visits | ... | .. | ... | 22,742 |

In addition, health visitors attended 2,368 half-day sessions at the clinics. An increasing number of visits is being paid to the aged.

6. School Health Service.

At the end of the year there were 27,200 children attending schools in Wolverhampton ; 906 were at private schools, 2,580 were at grammar schools and 23,714 at other county and voluntary schools. Routine medical inspection and minor ailment, ophthalmic, orthopaedic, paediatric, aural, child guidance and dental clinics are provided by the school health service. Delicate children and the educationally sub-normal are provided for at special schools.

During the year, 12 children of school age died. Of these, 3 lost their lives in road accidents, one died from a gunshot wound, one died of tuberculous meningitis, 2 of acute myeloid leukaemia and the remainder died from broncho-pneumonia, haemorrhage of chronic tonsillitis, status asthmaticus, carcinoma and congenital heart disease.

7. Home Nursing.

At the end of the year, the staff consisted of a supervisor, 6 full-time state registered nurses, 2 full-time state enrolled assistant nurses and one part-time state registered nurse.

The number of new cases attended by the nurses was slightly higher than in the previous year. A summary of the work of the nurses is given below :—

| Cases on register on 1.1.51. | New Cases. | Total Visits. | Cases on register on 31.12.51. |
|---------------------------------|------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| 116 | 1,082 | 24,674 | 107 |

The nature of the cases and the number of visits was :—

| | | | |
|-----------------|--------|---------------|-------|
| Acute medical | 2,085 | Infectious | 17 |
| Chronic medical | 13,175 | Others | 450 |
| Surgical | 4,553 | Pulmonary | |
| Abortions | 14 | tuberculosis | 4,343 |
| | | Non-pulmonary | |
| | | tuberculosis | 37 |

A noticable change in the work of the Home Nursing Service is the rapid growth of the domiciliary treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. In the last three years, visits to tuberculous patients have increased from a negligible quantity to twelve a day.

8. Domestic Help.

At the end of the year there were 6 full-time and 21 part-time workers employed regularly and 3 temporary part-time home helps with a minimum of two hours work daily for helping in homes where a small amount of assistance is required every day.

The cases assisted by home helps during the year consisted of :—

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|------------|
| Maternity | ... | ... | ... | ... | 72 |
| Tuberculosis | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Acute illness | ... | ... | ... | ... | 123 |
| Chronic illness | ... | ... | ... | ... | 101 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | ... | <u>303</u> |

The organiser investigates the conditions in every case before a home help is sent and subsequently she pays weekly visits. During the year she paid 1,891 visits.

9. Vaccination and Immunisation.

(a) **Vaccination against Smallpox.** During the year, 1,003 persons were vaccinated and 406 were re-vaccinated. Of those vaccinated, 803 were under one year old, and of those re-vaccinated, 368 were over 15 years old. Medical officers of the local authority carried out 461 of the 1,409 vaccinations and re-vaccinations.

As 2,756 infants were born alive during the year the 803 vaccinated under one year old represented 29.1% of those born.

(b) **Immunisation against Diphtheria.** During the year, 784 children under the age of 15 years were immunised by private practitioners and 1,576 by medical officers of the local authority in schools, clinics, and nurseries, making a total of 2,360 children immunised against diphtheria.

In the previous year, when there was an outbreak of poliomyelitis, the total number immunised fell to 1,855 and the increased number completed during 1951 is very welcome. In addition, reinforcing doses were given to 1,484 children, almost entirely in school. The estimated percentage of the child population immunised against diphtheria is :—

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (i) Under 5 years old : | population 14,560 : immunised 36% |
| (ii) 5—15 years old : | population 24,290 : immunised 78% |
| (iii) 0—15 years old : | population 38,850 : immunised 62% |

10. Ambulance Service.

This service has a staff of 26 and a fleet of 16 vehicles consisting of 10 ambulances, 5 sitting case cars and a mortuary van. The number of ambulance calls, 24,498 is about 5 per cent more than last year and the total mileage shows an increase of about 2 per cent. Approximately 3 per cent of the calls were to accidents and 1.5 per cent to emergencies.

11. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

(a) **Tuberculosis.** In association with the Regional Hospital Board the Corporation, as the local Health Authority, has responsibilities for the care of the tuberculous. The duties of the local Health Authority relate to prevention and after-care, and the indissoluble bond between these and the treatment of the disease is recognised in the arrangement by which chest physicians are employed jointly by the Board and the Corporation, the latter paying one eleventh of their salaries. In pursuance of their duties relating to the prevention of tuberculosis the chest physicians are concerned with the welfare of contacts, and arrangements exist whereby they can administer B.C.G. vaccine ; two contacts had been vaccinated by the end of 1951 under these arrangements. In addition many other children were vaccinated by the paediatricians.

The Health Department continued to co-operate with the Housing Department by indicating which tuberculous patients required rehousing urgently.

The after-care officer in the Health Department investigates the home conditions of cases of tuberculosis and also deals with persons suffering from illness generally, advising them how to obtain financial or other assistance they require, and if necessary arranges for its provision by the local Health Authority. The work in this connection comprised :—

| | | |
|---|--------|-------|
| New patients referred to after-care officer | ... | 180 |
| Old patients referred to after-care officer | ... | 48 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 228 |
| Environmental forms completed | ... .. | 181 |
| Patients provided with free milk | .. ... | 44 |
| Patients referred to Assistance Board | ... .. | 61 |

(b) Other Illness.

| | | |
|---|--------|----|
| Visited and advised by after care officer | ... .. | 13 |
| Assisted with rail fare | ... .. | 1 |

(c) Convalescence. The after-care officer makes application on behalf of suitable patients for admission to convalescent homes which cannot be arranged through other channels. These patients are asked to contribute towards the cost according to their means. The following details refer to the cases dealt with during the year :—

| | | |
|---------------------------------|--------|-------|
| Applications received | ... .. | 59 |
| Admitted to convalescent homes | ... .. | 51 |
| Admitted through another agency | ... .. | 2 |
| Admitted to mental hospital | ... .. | 1 |
| Applications withdrawn | .. ... | 4 |
| Too ill for admission | ... .. | 1 |
| | | <hr/> |
| | | 59 |

Total number of home visits under (a), (b) and **(c)** ... 1,118

(d) Invalid Aids. A supply of equipment is available for lending to patients nursed at home, who are required to pay a deposit which is repaid on the return of the equipment in good condition. During the year, the following equipment was provided for 264 patients nursed at home :—

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----------------|
| Air rings | ... | .. | ... | ... | ... | 96 |
| Bed pans | ... | .. | .. | ... | ... | 77 |
| Rubber sheets | ... | .. | .. | ... | ... | 67 |
| Back rests | .. | . | ... | ... | ... | 40 |
| Urinals | ... | ... | .. | ... | ... | 38 |
| Wheel chairs | .. | ... | ... | .. | ... | 11 |
| Air beds | . | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Bed cradles | ... | ... | . | ... | ... | 6 |
| Other articles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 11 |
| | | | | | | <hr/> 352 <hr/> |

12. Mental Health Service.

(a) **Administration.** The Health (Mental Treatment) Subcommittee meets monthly and delegates no duties to voluntary associations.

The staff of the Health Department includes one female and two male mental health workers all duly authorised to take initial proceedings for providing care and treatment for persons suffering from mental illness. The Occupation Centre for mental defectives has a supervisor and three assistants, and in addition three part-time guides to escort the children to and from the Centre. All clerical work associated with mental health is now done in the Health Department, and the assistance formerly given by the staff of the Town Clerk's Department has ceased, apart from committee work.

Most patients suffering from mental illness are admitted by duly authorised officers, at the request of general practitioners, to New Cross Hospital for three days and then those observed by the medical superintendent to require further hospital treatment are transferred to St. George's Hospital, Stafford ; an increasing proportion of patients who voluntarily request treatment for mental illness are admitted to St. George's Hospital directly from their homes.

Co-ordination with the Regional Hospital Board and with Hospital Management Committees is growing but still is capable of further development. There is gratifying evidence of growing appreciation by some psychiatrists of the value of information about patients which mental health workers can supply when invited to do so ; the information received by

this department about patients who have been discharged from hospital still requires augmenting considerably before it will prove as valuable as it should.

When a mental defective requires certification, one of a panel of practitioners who undertake this work is called in ; defectives needing urgent admission generally are admitted without delay and the waiting list in Wolverhampton remains low, attributable in some measure to the Occupation Centre to which many children have been sent who otherwise would require institutional care. The Local Health Authority's staff continue to visit the homes of patients in order to report to Hospital Management Committees for the purpose of the renewal of orders under the Mental Deficiency Acts, and this enables contact to be maintained with the patients and their families.

One mental health worker attended a short course which was following up a course attended during the previous year.

Acting as officers duly authorised to take initial proceedings under the Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts in providing care and treatment of persons suffering from mental illness, the mental health workers arranged the admission of 86 patients (32 men and 54 women) to New Cross Hospital for observation and 12 patients (9 men and 3 women) were certified, after observation, as persons of unsound mind and admitted to mental hospitals. Also, 8 patients (3 men and 5 women) were admitted to mental hospitals without prior observation in hospital, 2 patients (1 man and 1 woman) were admitted under the provisions of Section 24 of the Criminal Justice Act, 1948, and one woman was admitted on the petition made by her parent. In all, 23 patients (13 men and 10 women) were certified and admitted to mental hospitals and a further 2 women were admitted as temporary patients. In addition, 61 persons (32 men and 29 women) entered mental hospitals as voluntary patients, representing over 70% of all admissions. At the end of the year 418 Wolverhampton residents (191

men and 227 women) were known to be receiving treatment in mental hospitals ; over 60 patients who had been discharged from hospital were being visited regularly by the mental health workers.

Under the Mental Deficiency Acts, 3 girls of school age found to be uneducable and 5 girls leaving the special school for educationally sub-normal children at the age of 16 were found to require supervision, and these 8 children were placed under statutory supervision. Steps were taken to keep in touch with a further 16 children (8 boys and 8 girls) leaving the special school at the age of 16, although they were not regarded as requiring statutory supervision. In addition 10 cases subject to be dealt with were brought to the notice of the Health Department by the Children's and Welfare Services Departments, general practitioners, the Secretary of State and the Clerk to the Justices.

A summary of the position relating to mental defectives at the end of the year is given below :—

I. Particulars of Defectives on 1st January, 1952.

(1) Number of ascertained defectives found to be "subject to be dealt with."

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---|--------|----------|--------|
| (a) In institutions (including cases on licence) | 106 | 95 | 201 |
| (b) Under statutory supervision (excluding cases on licence) | 127 | 126 | 253 |
| (c) Under guardianship | 18 | 22 | 40 |
| (d) In "places of safety" | 5 | 5 | 10 |
| (e) Action not yet taken | 2 | — | 2 |
| Total ascertained "subject to be dealt with" | 258 | 248 | 506 |
| Number of cases included in (b) to (e) awaiting removal to an institution | 7 | 2 | 9 |

(2) Number of mental defectives not at present "subject to be dealt with" under voluntary supervision

| | | |
|----|----|-----|
| 61 | 46 | 107 |
|----|----|-----|

II. Particulars of Cases Reported in 1951.

(1) Ascertainment.

| | | | |
|--|----|----|----|
| (a) Reported under Education Act, 1944 | — | 8 | 8 |
| (b) Others "subject to be dealt with" | 6 | 4 | 10 |
| (c) Cases not "subject to be dealt with" | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| | 14 | 20 | 34 |

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|--|----------|----------|----------|
| (2) Disposal of cases reported in 1951. | | | |
| (a) Placed under statutory supervision | — | 8 | 8 |
| (b) Placed under voluntary supervision | 8 | 8 | 16 |
| (c) Taken to places of safety | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (d) Admitted to institution | 2 | 3 | 5 |
| (e) Action not yet taken | 2 | — | 2 |
| | <hr/> 14 | <hr/> 20 | <hr/> 34 |
| III. Cases Removed from List in 1951. | | | |
| (a) Ceased to be under care | 2 | 6 | 8 |
| (b) Died, removed, lost sight of | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| | <hr/> 6 | <hr/> 9 | <hr/> 15 |

Two unmarried defectives gave birth to children in 1951. One female defective married during the year.

The Occupation Centre had 55 defectives on the register at the end of the year :—

| | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|----------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Under 16 years | 22 | 21 | 43 |
| Over 16 years | 4 | 8 | 12 |
| | <hr/> 26 | <hr/> 29 | <hr/> 55 |

The Centre is open during the usual school hours and school holidays are observed. The children under 16 years of age receive free school milk ; school meals are provided at a charge of 7d. each and in special cases are provided free. Speech training, eurythmics, and the teaching of clean habits constitute part of the Centre's activities. During the year two children under five years of age were admitted and the experiment proved satisfactory. Five cases from outside the borough attend the Centre and in each case the appropriate authority pays the training fees.

13. Care of the Aged and Infirm.

Section 47 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, provides for people who, being seriously ill or being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions and are unable to secure proper care and attention. If the Medical Officer of Health certifies that it is necessary to remove any such person, the town council may apply to a court of summary jurisdiction for an order for removal to a suitable

hospital or other place for an initial period not exceeding three months, which may subsequently be extended by the court. The National Assistance (Amendment) Act, 1951, which came into force on 1st September, 1951, gives local authorities further powers to enable them to deal more expeditiously with urgent cases, but an order under the new Act authorises a person's detention for a period not exceeding three weeks and if an extension of this period is necessary, application for an order must be made in accordance with the provisions of Section 47 of the Act of 1948.

Nine cases (6 women and 3 men) were brought to the notice of the department by health visitors, home helps, neighbours, the National Assistance Board and the Welfare Services Department. Four of the cases were persuaded to accept hospital treatment, two were persuaded to enter suitable institutional accommodation and another was dealt with at home with the assistance of neighbours.

The two remaining cases were taken to hospital after removal orders under Section 47 had been obtained. One patient was a man of 74 who had been confined to bed for eight weeks because of increasing weakness and who had no relatives or friends willing to look after him and who had to rely on his neighbours for any food he received ; he was emaciated and his room was filthy ; he was very frail when admitted to hospital and he died a few days later. The other patient, a widow of 77 was the sole occupant of a house which smelt offensively and which contained no food ; she looked emaciated, sallow and ill and had refused to go into hospital when so advised by her own doctor ; she too died shortly after her removal.

In both these cases there was some unavoidable delay in securing their removal due to the conditions laid down in the National Assistance Act, 1948. The new Act of 1951 is devised to obviate this delay.

SECTION III. INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

1. Incidence.

The corrected notifications per 1,000 population of certain infectious diseases in Wolverhampton, the 126 Great Towns and England and Wales during 1951 are appended :—

| Disease. | | | | Wolver- hampton. | 126 Great Towns. | England & Wales. |
|--|-----|-----|-----|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Typhoid | ... | ... | ... | Nil | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Paratyphoid | ... | ... | ... | 0.02 | 0.03 | 0.02 |
| Meningococcal infection | ... | ... | ... | 0.04 | 0.04 | 0.03 |
| Scarlet Fever | ... | ... | ... | 0.54 | 1.20 | 1.11 |
| Whooping Cough | ... | ... | ... | 4.75 | 3.62 | 3.87 |
| Diphtheria | ... | ... | ... | 0.02 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Erysipelas | ... | .. | .. | 0.20 | 0.15 | 0.14 |
| Smallpox | ... | ... | ... | Nil | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| Measles | ... | ... | ... | 14.03 | 13.93 | 14.07 |
| Pneumonia | ... | .. | .. | 1.33 | 1.04 | 0.99 |
| Acute Poliomyelitis including polioencephalitis | | | | | | |
| Paralytic | ... | ... | ... | 0.03 | 0.03 | 0.03 |
| Non-paralytic | ... | ... | ... | 0.01 | 0.02 | 0.02 |
| Food poisoning | ... | ... | .. | 0.04 | 0.15 | 0.13 |

2. Influenza.

An epidemic of influenza began in Wolverhampton in the last few days of December, 1950, reached its maximum during the second half of January, 1951, and subsided by the middle of March. Although influenza is not a notifiable disease, some indication of its prevalence was shown by the increase in the number of new claims for sickness benefit in Wolverhampton at that time. Throughout the year 1951, new claims averaged slightly under 600 a week; during the week ending 19th December, 1950 they numbered 495, and after the Christmas holiday jumped to 838 in the week ending 2nd January, 1951, and then in successive weeks numbered 1,252, 1,755, 2,352, 1,817 and 1,333, continued to decline during the next four weeks and finally reached the usual level once again by the week ending March 20th.

This epidemic of influenza, which affected the whole country, was the most severe since 1933, and in Wolverhampton was responsible for an increase in the number of deaths attributed to influenza from 15 in 1950 to 71 in 1951;

it was also responsible for a proportion of the increase in the number of deaths due to bronchitis from 121 in 1950 to 167 in 1951.

3. Scarlet Fever.

This continues to be mild in character and there were no deaths among the 87 cases known to have occurred, 15 of which were nursed in hospital.

4. Diphtheria.

The diagnosis was confirmed in 4 cases which all recovered.

5. Whooping Cough.

The 770 notifications represented a large increase on the previous year when there were 453 cases notified. The disease increased in frequency in the latter half of 1950 and reached its maximum in the first quarter of 1951. Cases admitted to hospital numbered 15 and there were 2 deaths from the disease.

6. Measles.

A major epidemic of measles occurred in the first half of the year, as has happened in alternate years since 1941. The notifications which numbered 2,273 were more than double those of the previous year ; 25 cases were nursed in hospital ; no deaths occurred from the disease.

7. Poliomyelitis.

The number of cases notified was 6, of which 5 were paralytic and one was non-paralytic ; 5 were nursed in hospital ; there were no deaths from the disease. The age and sex distribution of the cases was :—

| Age. | Males. | Females. |
|-------------|--------|----------|
| 1— 4 years | 2 | 2 |
| 15—24 years | 1 | 1 |
| Total | 3 | 3 |

In 1948 there were 15 cases and 1 death, in 1949 there were 4 cases and no deaths and in 1950 there were 65 cases and 3 deaths.

8. Meningococcal Infection.

There were 6 confirmed cases of meningococcal meningitis ; all were admitted to hospital ; there was one death.

9. Pneumonia.

There were 216 cases of pneumonia notified, 20 of which were nursed in hospital. Although there were 73 deaths from pneumonia, few of these occurred amongst the notified cases and presumably in the majority of fatal cases the disease occurred as a terminal complication.

10. Dysentery.

Notifications numbered 80. Of these, 38 were cases of Sonne dysentery found during an investigation in a school. The remainder were notifications based on clinical grounds and in 4 of these cases bacteriological investigation proved them to be Sonne dysentery. There were no deaths from the disease.

11. Food Poisoning.

There were 7 cases notified. Three of these cases were in one family and investigation did not find a causal organism. The remainder were single cases ; in one no organism was isolated, and in 3 others *Salmonella typhimurium* was isolated.

12. Miscellaneous.

The number of cases of erysipelas notified was 33 with no deaths, there were 48 cases of puerperal pyrexia with no deaths, and 2 cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified, both without any impairment of vision.

13. Venereal Diseases.

The treatment of these diseases is now the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board, and facilities are provided at the Royal Hospital.

Syphilis. During the year, 55 cases (31 males and 24 females) were dealt with for the first time. Of these, 38 were Wolverhampton residents.

Gonorrhoea. There were 118 cases (98 males and 20 females) dealt with for the first time, and 67 of these were Wolverhampton residents.

Other Conditions. The number of cases dealt with for the first time was 474 (315 males and 159 females) and of these, 275 were Wolverhampton residents.

14. Tuberculosis.

Notification. The numbers of new cases of tuberculosis notified in 1951 and the four preceding years are given below :—

| Year | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary | | | | | |
| Male | 101 | 97 | 96 | 80 | 92 |
| Female | 68 | 59 | 59 | 43 | 51 |
| Non-Pulmonary | | | | | |
| Male | 16 | 7 | 12 | 7 | 4 |
| Female | 10 | 7 | 12 | 7 | 6 |
| Total | 195 | 170 | 179 | 137 | 153 |

The cases remaining on the register at the end of 1951 were classified as follows :—

| | | | |
|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|
| Pulmonary | | Non-Pulmonary | |
| Male | 461 | Male | 53 |
| Female | 308 | Female | 55 |
| | <u>769</u> | | <u>108</u> |

Deaths. The deaths from tuberculosis in 1951 and the preceding four years are given below :—

| Year | 1947 | 1948 | 1949 | 1950 | 1951 |
|---------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Pulmonary | | | | | |
| Male | 50 | 55 | 59 | 51 | 53 |
| Female | 37 | 28 | 31 | 22 | 26 |
| Non-Pulmonary | | | | | |
| Male | 5 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 2 |
| Female | 3 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 |
| Total | 95 | 90 | 96 | 87 | 83 |

The 4 fatal cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis comprised a girl of 6 months and a man aged 42 who died of military tuberculosis, and a boy of 6 years and a man aged 51 who died of tuberculous meningitis. One of the two fatal cases among children had been in contact with a previously unrecognised case of pulmonary tuberculosis.

Details of notifications and deaths are given in the accompanying table.

TABLE III.

TUBERCULOSIS—1951.

| Age. | NEW CASES. | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|----------|--------------|---------|------------------|---------|--------------|---------|------------------|---------|
| | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | | Respiratory. | | Non-Respiratory. | |
| | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. | Male. | Female. |
| 0 — 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| 1 — 4 | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | — | — |
| 5 — 14 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| 15 — 24 | 17 | 21 | — | 2 | 2 | 3 | — | — |
| 25 — 34 | 20 | 18 | — | — | 6 | 11 | — | — |
| 35 — 44 | 20 | 2 | — | 2 | 11 | 6 | 1 | — |
| 45 — 54 | 19 | 4 | — | 1 | 10 | 3 | — | 1 |
| 55 — 64 | 13 | — | — | — | 12 | 2 | — | — |
| 65 & up. | 2 | — | — | — | 12 | 1 | — | — |
| Totals | 92 | 51 | 4 | 6 | 53 | 26 | 2 | 2 |

15. Cancer.

The number of deaths attributed to cancer and allied conditions was 266.

The age distribution of the cases was :—

| Age. | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 0 — 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 5 — 14 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| 15 — 24 | 1 | — | 1 |
| 25 — 44 | 10 | 11 | 21 |
| 45 — 64 | 68 | 42 | 110 |
| 65 — 74 | 35 | 32 | 67 |
| 75 and over | 28 | 33 | 61 |
| | <hr/> 146 | <hr/> 120 | <hr/> 266 |

The sites of the disease were :—

| | Male. | Female. | Total. |
|--------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Mouth, tongue, pharynx | 8 | — | 8 |
| Oesophagus | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| Stomach | 32 | 27 | 59 |
| Large intestine | 18 | 18 | 36 |
| Rectum | 11 | 11 | 22 |
| Biliary passages & liver | 4 | 6 | 10 |
| Pancreas | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| Nose & larynx | 6 | — | 6 |
| Lungs and bronchi | 31 | 7 | 38 |
| Uterus | — | 9 | 9 |
| Female genital organs | — | 6 | 6 |
| Breast | — | 15 | 15 |
| Prostate | 5 | — | 5 |
| Male genital organs | 4 | — | 4 |
| Kidney | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| Bladder | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Skin | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Brain | 3 | 2 | 5 |
| Leukaemia, etc. | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Other sites | 7 | 4 | 11 |
| | <hr/> 146 | <hr/> 120 | <hr/> 266 |

SECTION IV.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

(Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector, F. Binns Hartley,
M.S.I.A., M.R.San.I.).

In normal times one of the major tasks confronting the Sanitary Inspector is to clear as quickly as possible houses which are considered to be unfit for human occupation, but present circumstances allow only a piecemeal clearance of these properties and action has been governed by the limited allocation of accommodation for re-housing which has necessitated the clearance only of those houses which have deteriorated to the point of constituting a danger to life and limb. This has obtained during the year under review, and whilst the number of sub-standard houses has been reduced the Health Committee realise that only the fringe of the problem is being tackled.

It was considered necessary to revise the information in the possession of the Department with regard to these sub-standard properties and in consequence a survey was conducted and the worst 200 houses were chosen in their order of priority ; these constitute a four year programme at the present rate of clearance progress.

Extreme difficulty was experienced in formulating this priority list for many of the other houses surveyed were in a similar state of disrepair ; this emphasised the urgent need for an increased allocation and fortunately the Housing Committee agreed. A further 100 houses have been made available for the year 1952 subject to the building target of 800 Corporation houses being reached. It is understood that these shall be used for the rehousing of families from clearance areas.

Whilst this is a step in the right direction the problem still remains, for there are approximately 6,000 houses within the borough which are sub-standard. This knowledge prompted the Health Sanitation Sub Committee to report that they were prepared to use as many Corporation houses as could

be made available for rehousing up to the full resources of the Housing Committee.

It should be realised that with the present allocation of houses for clearance purposes a period of 40 years must elapse before the houses at present considered sub-standard are cleared.

Work in connection with food administration was extended during the year to the limits of the staff available. Food premises were considerably improved and the report indicates the demand made on the Inspectors' time by duties of meat inspection and the department's responsibilities in this respect. It is interesting to note that the Minister of Food, under the powers contained in the Food & Drugs (Milk, Dairies & Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, has prepared a Draft Order whereby Wolverhampton is included in a " specified area " comprising Birmingham and the Black Country.

The section of the report dealing with atmospheric pollution shows that progress has been maintained, and I am happy to say that this progress is fostered by good relations with industry.

Many changes in both the clerical and inspectorial staffs have occurred in the year under review. Difficulties have been created and the work of the department in maintaining a high standard of administration has been handicapped.

1. Water Supplies.

Routine samples of drinking water were taken monthly from the various sources of the public supply ; each sample was submitted to both a chemical and a bacteriological examination. The chemical analyses were performed by the Public Analyst whilst the bacteriological examinations were undertaken by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford.

During the year, 19 samples were submitted for chemical analysis and 35 for bacteriological examination. The reports received in each instance indicated that the supplies were satisfactory.

Wastes of water from defective water fittings were observed in 85 instances and were referred to the Water Engineer for attention.

2. Swimming Bath Water.

Samples of swimming bath water were taken regularly from the two swimming baths owned by the council. A total of 16 chemical and 16 bacteriological samples were submitted for analysis and examination and all proved to be satisfactory.

3. Sanitary Accommodation.

The following is a summary of privies, privy middens, pan and pail closets and cesspools known to be in use at the end of the year :—

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-----|-----|----------|
| Privies and Privy Middens | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| Pan and Pail Closets | ... | ... | ... | 46 |
| " " " " | (Merridale Playing Fields) | | | 2 |
| " " " " | (Cannock Road Playing Fields) | | | 4 |
| | | | | <hr/> 61 |
| Cesspools | ... | ... | ... | 34 |

4. Offensive Trades.

54 routine inspections were made during the year to the 8 offensive trade premises which are detailed in the under-mentioned table :—

| Class of Trade. | Applications received. | | Permission Granted | | Statutorily dis-established | No. on Register 31st Dec., 1951. |
|---------------------------|------------------------|----------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|
| | New Premises | Renewals | New Premises | Renewals | | |
| Bone Boiler | — | — | — | — | — | 1 |
| Fat Melter or Extractor | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 2 |
| Gut Scraper | — | 2 | — | 2 | — | 3 |
| Rag, Bone and Skin Dealer | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Tripe Boiler | — | 1 | — | 1 | — | 1 |
| Totals | — | 5 | — | 5 | — | 8 |

The following table summarises the notices served :—

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 1 |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 | 2 |

5. Places of Public Entertainment.

Routine visits were again paid to all the theatres, cinemas and public sports arenas in the borough.

Following the major improvements carried out in the previous year, only minor improvements were made and all these premises are now maintained in a satisfactory condition.

6. Hairdressers' and Barbers' Premises.

A further four applications were received and approved during the year under Section 87 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, for the registration of hairdressers and their premises. During the same period hairdressing ceased to be carried on at two premises.

Routine inspections of all premises were continued and the standard of hygiene prevailing showed improvement. Repairs were effected wherever necessary.

The following tables summarise the action taken in connection with hairdressing premises during the period under review :—

| | Applications 1951. | | | Removed from Register during 1951 | Number on Register 31/12/51 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|---------|----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| | Received | Granted | Notices Served | | |
| Persons as Hairdresser or Barber | 4 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 169 |
| Premises | 4 | 4 | 8 | 9 | 169 |

Inspection of Premises.

| | | |
|--|-----|-----|
| Number of premises inspected prior to registration | ... | 4 |
| Number of inspections of registered premises | ... | 191 |

7. Pharmacy and Poisons Act, 1933.

During the year, 11 applications were received for entry in the Local Authority's list of persons entitled to sell poisons under Part II of the above-mentioned Act, and these were accordingly granted.

6 persons' names were removed leaving a total of 180 on the list at the end of the year.

133 routine visits were paid to premises occupied by persons on the Local Authority's list for the purpose of ensuring compliance with the Regulations with regard to the storage and sale of Part II poisons.

8. Sanitation, Housing, etc.

The following tables summarise the inspections made and the notices served with respect to sanitation, housing, etc.

INSPECTIONS.

| | Visits. | Re-visits. | Total. |
|--------------------------|---------|------------|--------|
| Complaints received ... | | | 1,669 |
| Visits:— | | | |
| Dwelling Houses:— | | | |
| Inspections, Housing ... | 79 | — | 79 |
| Overcrowding ... | 37 | — | 37 |
| General Repairs ... | 5,013 | 6,017 | 11,030 |
| Common Lodging Houses | 150 | — | 150 |
| Houses Let-in-Lodgings | 1 | — | 1 |
| Tents, Vans, Sheds ... | 149 | — | 149 |
| Places of Public | | | |
| Entertainment ... | 27 | — | 27 |
| Keeping of Animals ... | 77 | — | 77 |
| Infectious Diseases ... | 143 | — | 143 |
| Miscellaneous ... | 3,894 | — | 3,894 |
| Totals ... | 9,570 | 6,017 | 15,587 |

NOTICES.

| | Served. | | Complied with. | |
|---------------------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| | Inti- mation. | Statu- tory. | Inti- mation. | Statu- tory. |
| Housing Acts | 1,636 | 1,051 | 1,007 | 787 |
| Overcrowding | | | | |
| Dwelling Houses (P.H.) | 4 | — | — | — |
| Common Lodging | | | | |
| Houses | — | — | — | — |
| Houses Let-in-Lodgings | 1 | — | — | — |
| Places of Public | | | | |
| Entertainment | 3 | — | 3 | — |
| Keeping of Animals | | | | |
| Totals | 1,644 | 1,051 | 1,010 | 787 |

9. Fumigation, Disinfection and Disinfestation.

Routine fumigation of a flour and provender mill was carried out by a firm of specialist contractors. This is an annual undertaking and is for the purpose of pest destruction, particularly the mill moth. Notification was sent to this Department by the undertaker, as required by the Hydrogen Cyanide (Fumigation of Buildings) Regulations, 1938.

During the year, 1 male adult received treatment for scabies and 1 female adult for vermin, at the Heath Town Disinfestation Station.

The following table summarises the action taken during the year :—

Articles Steam Disinfected:—

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| Mattresses | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Blankets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |
| Pillow Cases | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 2 |
| Sheets | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 3 |
| Personal Clothing | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Miscellaneous articles | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |

Articles Sprayed:—

| | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Bedding | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 9 |
| No. of Rooms Sprayed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 43 |
| No. of Rooms Fumigated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 128 |
| No. of other Buildings Disinfected | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 |

Vermin Destruction:—

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| No. of Rooms Sprayed | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 40 |
| No. of Rooms Fumigated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 58 |
| No. of Library Books Fumigated | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 51 |

10. Atmospheric Pollution.

Polluting material is discharged into the atmosphere from a number of different sources, chiefly as a result of the combustion of fuel. The polluting matter may be in the form of relatively heavy particles of solid matter, which fall near to their points of origin ; fine suspended particles which float about in the atmosphere, and which may drift a considerable distance, or in the form of gases which are invisible. Even when there is no visible smoke, or deposit from a chimney, there is usually a varying amount of sulphur present in gaseous form, e.g., sulphur dioxide, etc., due to the oxidation of the small percentage of sulphur in the fuel. It is these sulphur compounds which are responsible for much of the damage done by chimney emissions, the main products of combustion (carbon dioxide and water) having no harmful effects.

Smoke Abatement.

Legislation on this subject is confined to the control of visible emissions. In the borough, there are, in addition to dwelling houses which are exempt, many premises from which smoke may be emitted.

During the year, 237 smoke observations were carried out, some as the result of complaints but mainly as a routine measure. An excessive amount of black smoke was recorded on 16 occasions and in every case the premises concerned were visited and the plant responsible inspected. Eleven premises were involved, all except two having been the subject of action by this department on previous occasions. Of these excessive emissions, 9 were judged to be due to faulty stoking and in two instances a new man had been engaged and was not familiar with the plant.

Incinerators were the source of 3 excessive emissions of black smoke, the nature and quantity of the refuse material burnt being responsible.

In the above-mentioned cases, better stoking and management of the plant resulted in an improvement, but such

improvement depends entirely on the person in charge, and any lapse on his part results in further excessive emissions of smoke.

Heavy firing of vertical cross tube boilers with bituminous coal was the cause of three more of the excessive emissions recorded ; one of the boilers has since been fitted with automatic stoking plant and no further excessive smoke observed. The boiler responsible for another excessive emission is used as a stand-by, and it is hoped that its use will no longer be necessary when the existing main boiler plant is modified.

The remaining case was of black smoke from oil-burning boilers ; the burners and combustion chamber fronts have since been replaced by new fittings.

In addition to the excessive emissions of black smoke, there have been excessive emissions of dense smoke, usually from such apparatus as metallurgical furnaces, stills, etc. In some instances the smoke can be reduced by close attention on the part of the persons in charge, but by reason of the nature of the process, some apparatus is prone to produce smoke. It has been decided to install automatic stokers to one range of furnaces which have been responsible for smoke emission over a long period ; this together with other alterations should result in the elimination of a long standing source of nuisance.

Grit emission from cupolas has also been the subject of complaints during the year, and two of these are to be replaced by new ones embodying an improved type of grit arrester. The installation was to have been completed during the year, but supply difficulties have prevented this being done.

The number of automatic stokers in use has been increased during the year, and some old grates have been replaced by new ones better suited to the needs of the boilers to which they were fitted. In each case there has been a marked improvement. There are still many boilers and other apparatus which are hand fired and which are responsible for frequent

emissions of smoke ; some of these are of small capacity and perhaps used intermittently. The objective of smokeless operation in many cases can only be achieved by the use of smokeless fuel, or by mechanised stoking with the more volatile fuels normally used.

Economy in fuel, and reduction in smoke are both results of good firing, and much unnecessary smoke is due to ignorance of the principles of combustion on the part of firemen and others having charge of furnaces. Classes in boiler house practice for firemen have been arranged by the Ministry of Fuel and Power at the Wolverhampton & Staffordshire Technical College. It is hoped with a better understanding of the subject much of the waste of fuel and smoke due to manual operations can be reduced.

Measurement of Pollution.

Investigations to determine the amount of atmospheric pollution have been continued during the year.

Grit Deposit. This is the relatively heavy matter which falls to the ground near the point of origin. There are two gauges for measuring this deposit, one in Cleveland Road near the centre of the town and one in Bantock Park to the west of the town.

There was a considerably heavier deposit in the central area, amounting to 260.44 tons per square mile per annum, compared with 126.54 tons per square mile per annum at Bantock Park.

Concentration of Smoke. Smoke in the form of fine suspended particles is collected by means of a filter located at the Health Offices, Waterloo Road, and the concentration is assessed from the amount of the deposit and the quantity of air filtered.

During the year there was a very marked seasonal fluctuation; the amount varied from approximately 0.01 milligrams per cubic metre in July to approximately 0.12 milligrams per cubic metre in October, which was the peak month.

There was little rain and a prevalence of easterly winds during the month of October, and this would result in smoke from the more industrial areas of the town reaching the filter.

Concentration of Sulphur. Two methods of assessment are in use (1) the volumetric method by which a known volume of air is passed through the medium which extracts the sulphurous gases in a manner which allows them to be measured, and (2) the lead peroxide method, by which the amount of sulphurous gases present in the atmosphere is ascertained by exposing a specially prepared surface with which they react. The amount of sulphur is established by analysis of the coating of the exposed surface.

The volumetric apparatus is in operation at the Health Offices, Waterloo Road, where it is combined with the smoke filter and daily concentrations are recorded. The results indicate a seasonal fluctuation, the amount present in summer being about one quarter of that present in winter.

Apparatus for measurement by the lead peroxide method is situated at different points about the town, the locations being :—

Oxley Park Golf Course, Stafford Road.

Transport Department, Park Lane.

Public Abattoir, Cleveland Road.

Borough Engineer's Department, Legge Street.

Bantock Park, Bradmore.

Results obtained by this method were the average daily concentration during each calendar month, and indicated a varying degree of pollution in different parts of the town, the highest being at the Abattoir, Cleveland Road, and the lowest at Bantock Park. The seasonal fluctuation was very pronounced, and from three to five times as heavy in winter as during the summer.

I wish to thank the Manager of the Sewage Outfall Works for the analyses of the exposed coatings in the lead peroxide apparatus ; the Borough Engineer, Transport Manager, Public Abattoir Manager, Parks Superintendent and the Oxley Golf Club for permission to install apparatus on their premises.

11. Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948.

It is estimated that there are 1,065 factories within the borough ; of these 930 have mechanical power and 75 have no mechanical power.

During the year, 314 inspections were carried out for the purpose of enforcing those parts of the Factories Acts and Regulations for which the Local Authority is responsible. As a result of these inspections 87 notices were served, by far the greatest proportion of which referred to sanitary conveniences. Of the 185 defects found, 181 were of insufficient, unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation. Defects remedied during the year amounted to 394, all of which referred to sanitary accommodation ; many of these were outstanding from the previous year.

Details of inspections made, defects found and remedied, etc., are set out in the following tables :—

Inspections of Factories.

| Premises. (1) | No. on Register. (2) | Number of | | |
|--|-------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Inspec- tions. (3) | Written Notices. (4) | Prose- cutions. (5) |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities (Non-Mechanical) | 75 | 2 | 2 | — |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Mechanical) | 930 | 312 | 85 | — |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (Electrical Stations, Engineering Construction Works, Building Operations) | 60 | — | — | — |
| Totals | 1,065 | 314 | 87 | — |

Cases in which defects were found.

| Particulars. (1) | No. of cases in which defects were found. | | | | No. of cases in which Prosecu- tions Insti- tuted. (6) |
|--|--|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| | Found. (2) | Reme- died. (3) | Referred. | | |
| | | | To H.M. Inspec- tor. (4) | By H.M. Inspec- tor. (5) | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) ... | 1 | — | — | 1 | — |
| Overcrowding (S.2) ... | — | — | — | — | — |
| Unreasonable temperatures (S.3) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) | — | — | — | — | — |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): | | | | | |
| (a) Insufficient | 2 | 8 | — | — | — |
| (b) Unsuitable or defec- tive | 179 | 384 | — | 8 | — |
| (c) Not separate for sexes | — | 2 | — | 1 | — |
| Other offences against the Act | 3 | — | 3 | — | — |
| Totals | 185 | 394 | 3 | 10 | — |

Outworkers : List of Outworkers received during 1951.

| Description of Homework. | No. of Outworkers. | |
|--|--------------------|---------|
| | February. | August. |
| Making, repairing or altering of wearing apparel | 8 | 8 |

12. Canal Boats.

The duties of inspection and examination of canal boats within the district devolve upon the Chief Sanitary Inspector and two Assistant Inspectors.

The three main canals within the Borough are fairly heavily used by traffic plying between Birmingham and the north west ; frequent inspections are made of the boats in use.

During the year, 147 inspections were carried out ; the boats inspected were occupied by 236 adults and 132 children, a total of 368 persons.

As a result of the inspections, 29 infringements of the Public Health Act, Canal Boat Act and Regulations were found.

The number of canal boats registered with this Authority is 1,148, but only 2 have been met with in this district during the past 5 years.

13. Rag Flock.

The standard of cleanliness of rag flock used in the manufacture of upholstery, cushions and bedding was controlled by the Rag Flock Acts of 1911 and 1928 and Regulations made thereunder. These standards applied only to rag flock, and not to other materials which are being used to an increasing extent for the same purpose.

On the 1st November, 1951, the above Acts were repealed and a new Act, The Rag Flock and Other Filling Materials Act, 1951, came into force. The powers of local authorities were greatly extended, and standards of cleanliness were laid down for a wide range of filling materials. Provision was also made for the registration of premises where these materials are used, and the licensing of premises where rag flock is manufactured or stored for distribution to registered premises. There are none of the latter but some of the former in the borough, and steps were taken to register the premises concerned.

No samples had been taken by the end of the year.

14. Rats and Mice Destruction.

During the year, the destruction of rats and mice was carried out in accordance with the scheme laid down by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, which continued to make grants to local authorities on the same basis as the previous year.

The Council decided to retain the practice of providing free services to occupiers of private dwellings : as a result, the public reported readily the presence of rats or mice in or around their homes. Local authority properties, including sewage disposal works, refuse tips, markets and abattoir, were treated whenever necessary : two treatments of the sewers were carried out in accordance with the Ministry's recommendations. As previously, occupiers of commercial and industrial premises who desired the local authority's assistance in the actual destruction of rats and mice, were required to sign agreements for the services of the rodent operatives. The necessary treatments were then carried out, and the expenditure subsequently recovered.

Compared with 1950, the annual report requested by the Ministry was a simplified one : this was duly completed and transmitted.

The accepted methods were employed in the destruction of rats and mice. Towards the end of the year, the Ministry suggested that Warfarin might be added to the list of available poisons, but as more experience was needed of the advantages and disadvantages of this material before firm recommendations could be made, local authorities were asked to try this preparation and advise the Ministry of the results. It is a white powder, insoluble in water, and is the only poison thought to be suitable for use without prebaiting. It is a blood anti-coagulant, which, when taken regularly in small doses, causes fatal haemorrhage in rats and mice.

SUMMARY, 1951.

| | No. of Premises Visited. | Total No. of Visits Paid, | By Poison Baits. | | No. Killed by | | | Gr. To Acco- ed |
|--|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------|----------|--------------------------|
| | | | Esti- mated Kill. | No. of Bodies re- covered. | Traps. | Dak. | Ferrets. | |
| A. Private Dwellings : | | | | | | | | |
| Rats Destruction ... | 308 | 1424 | 561 | 100 | 30 | 4 | 180 | 7 |
| Mice Destruction .. | 194 | 1027 | 911 | 232 | — | 566 | — | 14 |
| B. Local Authority Premises : | | | | | | | | |
| Rats Destruction .. | 40 | 311 | 221 | 55 | 207 | 13 | 151 | 5 |
| Mice Destruction ... | 18 | 127 | 168 | 34 | — | 50 | — | 2 |
| C. Business Premises: | | | | | | | | |
| Rats Destruction ... | 64 | 495 | 451 | 91 | 27 | 37 | 62 | 5 |
| Mice Destruction ... | 24 | 78 | 192 | 44 | — | 77 | — | 20 |
| Totals— | | | | | | | | |
| Rats Destruction .. | 412 | 2230 | 1233 | 246 | 264 | 54 | 393 | 194 |
| Mice Destruction ... | 236 | 1232 | 1271 | 310 | — | 693 | — | 196 |

SECTION V.

HOUSING.

1. Clearance Schemes.

During the year a further 47 persons were rehoused from 14 houses included in the Moseley Village and Dale Street Clearance Schemes; these schemes were initiated in 1938 and 1939 respectively, and clearance was interrupted by the war.

At the end of the year under review the number of houses remaining to be demolished in these areas was as follows :—

| | Pink. | Grey. |
|--|-------|-------|
| Moseley Village No. 1 Clearance Area ... | 7 | 1 |
| Dale Street No. 1 Clearance Area ... | 127 | 20 |

In addition some 66 houses remain to be dealt with in the small subsidiary areas to the Dale Street No. 1 Area which were included in the public inquiry held in 1939 but have not been confirmed by the Minister.

2. Individual Unfit Houses.

A number of individual unfit houses has been represented during the year and some little progress has been made in clearing some of the worst houses in the borough. A summary of the action taken under Sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936, is shown hereunder :—

| | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Inspections | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 78 |
| Represented to Committee | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 60 |
| Orders Made:— | | | | | | | |
| Section 11—Demolition | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 48 |
| Section 11—Undertakings not to use for human habitation | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Section 12—Closing Order | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Houses Demolished:— | | | | | | | |
| Section 11 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 105 |
| Persons Displaced:— | | | | | | | |
| Section 11 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 385 |
| Section 12 | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Houses Voluntarily Demolished | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

During the latter part of the year a case occurred in which "squatters" occupied a house on which a demolition order was operative; legal proceedings were being instituted for the ejectment of this family at the end of the year.

3. Survey of Low Standard Houses.

It is the duty of every local authority to cause their district to be inspected from time to time to ascertain the number of houses unfit for human habitation.

A survey made in 1946 showed that 5,911 houses were then of a sufficiently low standard to warrant action either in clearance areas or as individual unfit houses. In 1947, following representations from the Health Committee, the Housing Committee agreed to an annual allocation of 50 houses for rehousing families displaced from individual unfit houses and in this way a number of the worst low standard houses has been dealt with.

By the beginning of the year under review it was becoming increasingly apparent that many of the low standard houses were rapidly deteriorating and that a further survey of the

town was necessary to revise the information in the possession of the Department. The whole of the low standard properties were visited and the worst 687 houses were chosen. Detailed inspections were made of these and as a result the worst 200 houses were chosen. It must be emphasised however that their choice was very difficult as many of the other houses surveyed were in an almost similar state of disrepair. A list detailing the worst 200 houses in their order of priority was prepared and this has been used as a basis for the individual unfit houses to be dealt with in the next 4 years.

As a result of the survey the proposed areas listed in the Medical Officer's Report for 1938 have also been revised. In addition, the houses still occupied in the Moseley Village and Dale Street Clearance Schemes were surveyed and an analysis prepared for the numbers and types of houses which would be required for rehousing. It was found that 164 new houses or flats would be required to complete the clearance of the two areas which were the subject of compulsory purchase orders and a further 73 houses for those in the small subsidiary areas not yet confirmed by the Minister.

This survey served to emphasise the major problem confronting the Health and Sanitation Committees and showed the total inadequacy of the present allocation of 50 houses per year for the clearance of individual unfit houses and clearance areas. The Housing Committee considered the matter and agreed to an allocation for the year 1952 of 150 houses.

SECTION VI.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. Meat Inspection.

Public Abattoir. The staff of the Abattoir comprises one full-time Inspector and one part-time clerk. When required, one Sanitary Inspector attends in rotation for duty, and during periods of peak killing one other Inspector is available.

No change is recorded affecting the area for which the Abattoir is the slaughtering centre.

The number of animals slaughtered during the year was :—

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----|-----|-----|---------|
| Cattle (other than cows) | ... | ... | ... | 16,039 |
| Cows | ... | ... | ... | 10,280 |
| Calves | ... | ... | ... | 18,500 |
| Sheep | ... | ... | ... | 53,547 |
| Pigs | ... | ... | ... | 8,160 |
| Goats | ... | ... | ... | 248 |
| Total | ... | ... | ... | 106,774 |

In 1950, 104,882 animals were slaughtered. The increase this year is 1,892.

Weight of meat and offals condemned was :—

| | | | | | |
|--------|-----|----------|----------|--------|--------|
| Meat | ... | 106 tons | 18 cwts. | 3 qrs. | 7 lbs. |
| Offals | ... | 239 " | 10 " | 3 " | 22 " |
| Total | | 346 " | 9 " | 3 " | 1 " |

The total of meat and offals condemned during the year was less than that of last year by 24 tons 7 cwts. 1 qr. 12 lbs.

| | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|----------|----------|--------|---------|
| 1950 Meat | ... | 133 tons | 18 cwts. | 2 qrs. | 23 lbs. |
| 1951 | ... | 106 " | 18 " | 3 " | 7 " |
| Decrease | | 26 " | 19 " | 3 " | 16 " |

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|----------|----------|-------|---------|
| 1950 Offals | | 236 tons | 18 cwts. | 1 qr. | 18 lbs. |
| 1951 | ... | 239 " | 10 " | 3 " | 22 " |
| Increase | | 2 " | 12 " | 2 " | 4 " |

The following table shows an analysis of animals affected with disease together with total or partial condemnation :—

| | Cattle (other than cows) | Cows | Calves | Sheep | Pigs | Goats |
|--|-----------------------------------|-------|--------|-------|------|-------|
| affected with tuberculosis | 884 | 4,653 | 8 | — | 350 | — |
| affected with other diseases | 1,354 | 4,947 | 174 | 3,717 | 265 | 3 |
| totally condemned for tuberculosis | 19 | 223 | 5 | — | 24 | — |
| partially condemned for tuberculosis | 865 | 4,430 | 3 | — | 326 | — |
| totally condemned for other diseases | 10 | 88 | 106 | 117 | 49 | 1 |
| partially condemned for other diseases | 1,344 | 4,859 | 68 | 3,600 | 216 | 2 |

Compared with 1950 the percentage increase or decrease in the number of animals showing disease is :

| | Cattle. | Cows. | Calves. | Sheep. | Pigs. |
|----------------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|-------|
| All diseases except tuberculosis | -5.29 | -9.73 | -0.04 | +0.67 | -0.30 |
| Tuberculosis only | -3.01 | -11.20 | +0.02 | — | +0.92 |

The percentage infection of cattle and cows affected with tuberculosis during the past 10 years is given in the following table :—

| Year. | Cattle examined. | Percentage affected with tuberculosis. | Cows examined. | Percentage affected with tuberculosis. |
|-------|------------------|--|----------------|--|
| 1942 | 7,487 | 11.96 | 4,645 | 52.93 |
| 1943 | 10,663 | 14.12 | 4,850 | 64.45 |
| 1944 | 11,815 | 14.66 | 6,539 | 62.57 |
| 1945 | 16,868 | 17.25 | 5,892 | 59.16 |
| 1946 | 12,463 | 16.28 | 6,548 | 55.55 |
| 1947 | 10,519 | 13.40 | 7,315 | 49.42 |
| 1948 | 11,015 | 10.21 | 5,824 | 54.07 |
| 1949 | 9,562 | 9.88 | 6,354 | 52.86 |
| 1950 | 14,025 | 8.52 | 8,712 | 56.47 |
| 1951 | 16,039 | 5.51 | 10,280 | 45.26 |

Cold Stores. 191 tins of corned beef and mutton were condemned representing 7 cwts. 2 qrs. 17 lbs. of meat. In addition 3 qrs. 13 lbs. of hindquarter meat (bruised) and 12 lbs. mutton (mould) were condemned.

Tuberculosis Orders 1938-1946. Veterinary Officers sent 18 cows for slaughter under the provisions of the above Orders, 17 being from premises outside the borough ; 7 were condemned as being affected with advanced tuberculosis.

Cysticercus Bovis. Inspections were made in all bovine animals for cysticercus bovis. The animals were received from 26 collecting centres ; 23 heifers, 15 bullocks and 23 cows were affected with disease which was located in the head in 25 instances, the heart in 30, and in the skirting in 6. The carcasses were removed to cold storage.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933. 51 slaughtermen applied for and were granted renewal of licences under this Act. In addition 8 new licences were granted. Tests were applied to all new applicants. No applicant was refused a licence, but one application was deferred for 3 months.

Transportation of Meat. Attention has been given to this subject throughout the year. Vehicles have been inspected very frequently and generally found to be maintained in a cleanly condition. The department was asked to investigate two complaints of vehicles arriving at their destination carrying meat in a dirty condition. No definite conclusion was obtainable because the vehicle had collected meat from other depots en route.

Abattoir Lairages. The supply of drinking troughs for the use of animals brought into the lairages was found to be insufficient. The attention of the Markets Department was drawn to the defect. During the year some additional troughs have been provided.

Carcases inspected and condemned.

| | Cattle excluding Cows. | Cows. | Calves. | Sheep and Lambs. | Pigs. |
|---|------------------------------|--------|---------|------------------------|-------|
| Number killed | 16,039 | 10,280 | 18,500 | 53,547 | 8,160 |
| Number inspected | 16,039 | 10,280 | 18,500 | 53,547 | 8,160 |
| All diseases except T.B. Whole carcases condemned | 10 | 88 | 106 | 117 | 49 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 1,344 | 4,859 | 68 | 3,600 | 216 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B. | 8.44 | 48.13 | 0.94 | 6.94 | 3.24 |
| T.B. only. Whole carcases condemned | 19 | 223 | 5 | — | 24 |
| Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned | 865 | 4,430 | 3 | — | 326 |
| Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B. | 5.51 | 45.26 | 0.04 | — | 4.28 |

2. Unsound Food Condemned and Destroyed—Food Shops.

The undermentioned articles of food were examined during the year under review and were voluntarily surrendered and subsequently destroyed :—

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----------|---------|----------------|
| Bacon and Ham | ... | ... | ... | 1 cwt. | 2 qrs. | 7 lbs. |
| Cheese | ... | ... | ... | 1 cwt. | 3 qrs. | 15 lbs. |
| Fish | ... | ... | ... | 10 cwts. | 2 qrs. | 3 lbs. |
| Fruit | ... | ... | ... | | 1 qr. | 2 lbs. |
| Meat | ... | ... | ... | 5 cwts. | 2 qrs. | 23 lbs. |
| Poultry | ... | ... | ... | 2 cwts. | 1 qr. | 11 lbs. |
| Sausage | ... | ... | ... | 1 cwt. | 2 qrs. | 17½ lbs. |
| 108 Faggots. | | | | | | |
| 65 Dem. Sel. Pasteurised Cheeses. | | | | | | |
| 11 Chocolate Cakes. | | | | | | |
| 211 Duck Eggs. | | | | | | |
| 180 Rabbits. | | | | | | |
| Miscellaneous Articles | . | ... | ... | 2 cwts. | 0 qrs. | 21½ lbs. |
| Total weight | ... | ... | ... | 1 ton | 6 cwts. | 0 qrs. 16 lbs. |

3. Milk Supply.

During the year close supervision continued to be given to the pasteurising and sterilising of milk carried out in the four dairies in the borough licensed for this purpose. These dairies, with one other dairy which receives its supplies of pasteurised and sterilised milk from a dairy outside the borough, provide the bulk of the milk supply of the borough in the form of T.T. (pasteurised), pasteurised and sterilised milk. Frequent routine visits are made to the dairies for observation of the milk processing and the bottling and other processes such as plant cleansing and sterilisation, incidental to the processing and bottling of milk.

Samples of pasteurised and sterilised milk have been taken weekly from each dairy together with samples of milk bottle rinsings for bacteriological examination. Of the 338 samples of T.T. (pasteurised) and pasteurised milk submitted for bacteriological examination only four failed to pass the methylene blue test. None failed the phosphatase test, a failure in which indicates that the milk has not been correctly pasteurised or that raw milk has gained access to the finished milk. No samples of sterilised milk failed the statutory test. These results may be considered very satisfactory and show that the milk supply of the borough reaches a high standard.

Five supplies of Tuberculin Tested (Farm Bottled) milk are retailed within the borough. Samples of these supplies have been taken for examination and only one sample failed in the methylene blue test. Samples of all supplies were submitted for biological examination and found to be free from tubercular infection.

Under powers contained in the Food and Drugs (Milk, Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950, the Minister of Food has prepared a Draft Order whereby Wolverhampton is included in a "specified area" comprising Birmingham and the Black Country. This means that from the appointed date on which the Order comes into force all milk sold by retail within the area must be specially designated milk, that is sterilised milk, pasteurised milk, tuberculin tested milk or, until 30th September, 1954, accredited milk from a single herd.

During the year the erection of a new milk depot with modern, large cold storage capacity was completed and placed on the register of dairies. The use of existing premises was discontinued and the premises were removed from the register.

| REGISTRATIONS. | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Number of Persons and Firms on Register | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 502 |
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 14 |
| Bottled Milk Shops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 452 |
| Dairies outside Borough retailing milk within | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Retail Purveyors | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 37 |
| Persons registered to sell loose milk at Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Milkshops, or on rounds | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Dealers, Sterilisers and Pasteurisers | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| Licences:— | | | | | | | |
| Tuberculin Tested:— | | | | | | | |
| To bottle and sell | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| To sell only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 22 |
| Supplementary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 |
| Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised):— | | | | | | | |
| To bottle and sell | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| To sell only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Supplementary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| Pasteurised:— | | | | | | | |
| To bottle and sell | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 4 |
| To sell only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 34 |
| Supplementary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 |
| Accredited:— | | | | | | | |
| To bottle and sell | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |
| To sell only | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| Supplementary | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

VISITS.

Visits:—

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Dairies | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 763 |
| Milkshops | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 452 |

SAMPLES.

| Class of Milk. | Samples taken | | Appropriate tests | Passed. | Failed. |
|---------------------|-------------------|--------------|-------------------|---------|---------|
| | Bacterio-logical. | Bio-logical. | | | |
| T.T. (Farm Bottled) | 39 | — | Methylene Blue | 37 | 2 |
| T.T. (Farm Bottled) | — | 6 | | 6 | — |
| T.T. (Pasteurised) | 143 | — | Phosphatase | 143 | — |
| | | — | Methylene Blue | 141 | 2 |
| Pasteurised | 195 | — | Phosphatase | 195 | — |
| | | — | Methylene Blue | 193 | 2 |
| Sterilised | 173 | — | Turbidity | 173 | — |

4. Ice Cream.

Whilst there is room for still further improvement in both manufacturing and retail premises, the progress recorded in the field of hygiene over the past few years is real, and at no time has the standard of locally manufactured ice-cream attained the level it enjoys today. The year under review has again seen a steady rise in the bacteriological quality of samples tested, an indication of the traders' desire to produce a product beyond reproach.

Fifty-four applications for registration of premises for the sale of ice-cream were received and approved, and as in the previous year, applicants stipulated that only pre-packed products would be sold. One old established firm closed during the year, thus reducing the number of manufacturing establishments in the borough to 16. At the end of the year the number of premises registered for "sale only" was 395.

For the first time in this country a chemical standard for ice-cream was set up when the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order 1951 came into operation on 1st March, 1951. Briefly the minimum standard is that ice-cream shall contain no less

than 5% fat, 10% sugar and 7½% milk solids other than fat. There is a variation in the case of ice-cream containing fruit, fruit pulp or fruit puree and a separate standard is also provided for Parev (Kosher) ice-cream.

Methylene Blue Test.

The number of samples examined was 117 compared with 163 for the previous year. As will be seen from the comparative tables below, the number of samples falling within Grade 1 shows a considerable increase, with a corresponding decline in Grades 3 and 4.

All 21 "Complete Cold Mix" samples examined were reported as satisfactory. In addition 25 samples of chocolate ices were taken, of which 84% were satisfactory.

Summary of results of Methylene Blue Test applied to samples taken during the years (a) 1950 (b) 1951.

(a) Ice Cream Manufactured within the Borough.

| Year. | No. of Samples Taken. | PROVISIONAL GRADE. | | | |
|-------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1950 | 76 | 42 55.3% | 16 21.0% | 12 15.8% | 6 7.9% |
| 1951 | 59 | 39 66.1% | 14 23.7% | 3 5.1% | 3 5.1% |

(b) Ice Cream Manufactured outside the Borough.

| Year. | Total No. of Samples Taken. | PROVISIONAL GRADE. | | | |
|-------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1950 | 87 | 45 51.7% | 23 26.4% | 16 18.4% | 3 3.5% |
| 1951 | 58 | 42 72.4% | 10 17.2% | 4 6.9% | 2 3.5% |

Chemical Analysis.

Samples submitted for analysis numbered 81, compared with 145 for the previous year. Under the Food Standards (Ice-Cream) Order, 1951, 1 sample was deficient in fat, 4 deficient in milk solids not fat and 3 showed a sugar deficiency. In all cases the deficiencies were small and repeat samples conformed to the standard set out in the above mentioned order.

In addition to the above, 9 chocolate bar samples were taken, 2 of which showed a cane sugar deficiency. Repeat samples were reported genuine.

Average Composition of Ice-Cream and Chocolate Bars.

| | Fat. | Sugar. | Milk solids not fat. |
|----------------|-------|--------|-------------------------|
| Ice Cream | 10.4% | 12.2% | 9.7% |
| Chocolate Bars | 21.4% | 9.1% | 10.7% |

5. Ice Lollies

Regular routine inspections were made during the year of establishments registered for the manufacture of ice-lollies. Premises, equipment, method of manufacture and handling are, on the whole, satisfactory. In view of the concern in many parts of the country about the use of unsuitable colouring matter in the making of ice-lollies, particular attention was paid to this point, all supplies being checked to ensure that only well known makes from reliable firms were used. Although the risk of infection from this source is no doubt small, the possibility of contamination cannot be lightly dismissed, especially where the "mix" is not subjected to heat treatment and efficient cooling. Thirteen samples of varied flavours of lollies were submitted for bacteriological examination. Plate counts of all samples were comparatively low and with two exceptions *B. Coli* was absent.

6. Ice Cream, etc., Preparing Premises.

The following table summarises the notices served, inspections made and the improvements recorded.

Notices:—

| | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---------------|-----|----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | .. | ... | 22 | — |
| Complied with | ... | .. | ... | 10 | — |

Premises removed from the Register:—

| | | | | | | |
|---------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---|
| (a) For Manufacture | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 1 |
| (b) For Sale | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

Inspections of:—

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Manufacturers' Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 198 |
| Vendors' Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | 440 |
| Purveyors' Vehicles | ... | ... | ... | ... | — |

Improvements Recorded:—

| | | | |
|---|-----|-----|---|
| Sufficient supply of hot water provided | ... | ... | 7 |
|---|-----|-----|---|

7. Synthetic Cream.

A total of 19 samples of synthetic cream were submitted for bacteriological examination, of which 15 (79%) were reported as sterile. Repeat samples of the remainder were found to be satisfactory.

8. Watercress.

No pathogenic organisms were isolated from the 10 samples of watercress submitted for bacteriological examination.

9. Sampling.

Three hundred and twenty three samples of food and drugs were taken during the year for analysis by the Public Analyst, consisting of 152 formal samples and 171 informal samples. Twenty samples (6.19%) consisting of 9 formal and 11 informal samples were found to be non-genuine or of unsatisfactory composition.

Of the 93 samples of milk taken for analysis only 2 (2.15%) consisting of one formal sample and one informal sample were found to be slightly below the presumptive standard of 3% milk fat. In each case further samples were taken from the same source and found to be genuine. No sample of milk was found to contain extraneous water.

An ointment sold as anti-septic balm was found to contain a quantity of zinc oxide in excess of the amount stated on the tin label and a sample of iodised throat tablets was deficient in the amount of iodine it was stated to contain on the tin label. In each case the article was withdrawn from sale and the stock destroyed.

An informal sample of an article sold as Pure Oil for use in cooking, was reported to consist of 100% mineral oil and unsuitable for use as a foodstuff. A formal sample was unobtainable, the article no longer being on sale.

Six samples of pork sausage were found to be slightly below the standard in meat content. Further samples were taken from the shops concerned and found to be of the required standard.

Two samples of canned imported cherries, one French and one Belgian were submitted for analysis following complaints of their unsatisfactory nature and the abnormal flavour of the cherries. The cherries were found to contain sulphur dioxide with traces of sulphuretted hydrogen. Some interaction had taken place between the sulphur dioxide preservative and the lacquered internal surface of the tin cans resulting in the formation of a sulphide which had given an unpleasant taint to the fruit. Following upon this report the two wholesalers concerned were requested to surrender their remaining stock of cherries and 317 tins were removed from the premises concerned and destroyed.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938: Summary of Samples taken 1951.

| Article. | Number Examined. | | | Number Adulterated. | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|----------|-------|---------------------|----------|-------|
| | Formal | Informal | Total | Formal | Informal | Total |
| Anti-septic Balm ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Baking Powder ... | | 3 | 3 | | | |
| Blanc Mange Powder ... | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| Brawn ... | 2 | | 2 | | | |
| Cake & Sponge Mixtures | 1 | 6 | 7 | | 1 | 1 |
| Cereals ... | | 15 | 15 | | | |
| Cherries ... | | 6 | 6 | | 2 | 2 |
| Coffee ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Coffee & Chicory ... | | 8 | 8 | | | |
| Cream ... | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Crystallised Fruit ... | | 4 | 4 | | | |
| Dried Egg ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Fish Cakes ... | 4 | | 4 | | | |
| Fish Paste ... | | 4 | 4 | | | |
| Gelatine ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Honey ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Iodised Tablets ... | 1 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Jam ... | | 15 | 15 | | | |
| Jelly ... | 1 | 17 | 18 | | 3 | 3 |
| Lemon Cheese ... | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| Maple Syrup ... | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Marmalade ... | | 5 | 5 | | | |
| Meat Paste ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Milk ... | 81 | 12 | 93 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Milk Powder ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Mincemeat ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Miscellaneous Drugs ... | | 13 | 13 | | | |
| Miscellaneous Foods ... | | 22 | 22 | | | |
| Olive Oil ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Pepper ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Pepper Compound ... | | 5 | 5 | | | |
| Pie Meat ... | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Pickles ... | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Potted Shrimps ... | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Pure Oil ... | | 1 | 1 | | 1 | 1 |
| Rum ... | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Sauce ... | | 2 | 2 | | | |
| Sausage ... | 52 | | 52 | 6 | | 6 |
| Spices ... | | 6 | 6 | | | |
| Tea Seed Oil ... | | 1 | 1 | | | |
| Whisky ... | 4 | | 4 | | | |
| Yoghourt Milk ... | 1 | | 1 | | | |
| Totals ... | 152 | 171 | 323 | 9 | 11 | 20 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Administrative Action Taken Regarding Samples Reported not to be Genuine During the Year Ending 31st December, 1951.

| No. of Sample. | Article of Food. | Formal or Informal | Nature of Adulteration or Irregularity. | Legal Proceedings Instituted | | Observations |
|----------------|------------------------|--------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------------|---|
| | | | | Fine inflicted £. s. d. | Costs imposed £. s. d. | |
| 25 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Slightly below the limit. Meat content—63.8%. | | | |
| 43 | Pure Oil | Informal | Consists of 100% mineral oil and is unsuitable for use as a foodstuff. | | | |
| 50 | Jelly | Informal | Deficient of 9.8% of the required amount of sugar. | | | Formal sample reported genuine. |
| 70 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Deficient of 3% meat. | | | |
| 81 | Milk | Informal | Deficient of fat 6%. | | | |
| 98 | Sweetened Cake Mixture | Informal | Deficient of 16% of sugar. | | | Formal sample reported genuine. |
| 118 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Slightly deficient of meat. | | | |
| 161 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Slightly deficient of meat. Total meat content 63%. | | | |
| 173 | Milk | Formal | Deficient of fat 6.6%. | | | |
| 179 | Table Jelly | Informal | Deficient of sugar 15.7%. | | | Withdrawn from sale. See sample No. 217. |
| 183 | Iodised Tablets | Informal | Deficient of Tincture of Iodine 45%. | | | See sample No. 216. |
| 186 | Antiseptic Balm | Informal | Contained 125% excess of prescribed amount of Zinc Oxide. | | | |
| 210 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Deficient of meat 5.4%. | | | |
| 214 | Pork Sausage | Formal | Deficient of meat 10%. | | | |
| 216 | Antiseptic Balm | Formal | Contained 4% Zinc Oxide as against 2% guaranteed. | | | Withdrawn from sale. |
| 217 | Iodised Throat Tablets | Formal | Iodine did not exceed 3%, stated to contain 5.35%. | | | |
| 219 | Table Jelly | Informal | Deficient of sugar 7.3%. | | | Withdrawn from sale. |
| 226 | Cherries in Syrup | Informal | SO ₂ —45 parts per million contained traces of Sulphuretted Hydrogen.. | | | Stock surrendered and destroyed. |
| 260 | Maple Flavoured Syrup | Informal | Artificial Maple Syrup. | | | Formal sample submitted for analysis. |
| 286 | Cherries in Syrup | Informal | | | | |

10. Catering Establishments.

Regular routine visits totalling 692 were paid to hotels, restaurants, snack bars, school kitchens and other catering establishments throughout the year.

As in previous years, attention was given to the general cleanliness of the premises, the provision of hot and cold water supplies, the improvement of facilities for utensil washing and the inspection of food stored and prepared on the premises. During the past six years, with the passing of war time restrictions, a great deal of work has been done in the reconstruction and re-equipping of restaurant kitchens throughout the borough with the result that the standard obtaining generally in the kitchens is reasonably satisfactory.

The continued restrictions with respect to the issue of building licences is in several instances preventing substantial reconstruction being carried out to the premises where working space is somewhat cramped and confined.

Following upon a report forwarded to the appropriate Committee, re-painting of a number of school kitchens together with the provision of additional washing facilities and the replacement of worn-out equipment was carried out during the year.

Particular attention is given to vermin, rats, mice, cockroaches, flies, etc., liable to infest kitchens and food stores, and advice is given on preventing or dealing with such infestations. It is the general rule for the larger establishments to contract either with private firms dealing with pest control or with the department for regular routine visits to be paid to their premises for the purpose of pest control.

The following table summarises the notices served and the number of visits paid :—

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. | |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|-----|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 46 | — | |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 39 | — | |
| No. of visits | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 692 |

11. Provision Shops, Warehouses, and Other Shop Premises.

367 inspections of provision shops and warehouses and 676 inspections of other shop premises were made.

The following table summarises the notices served :—

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 80 | — |
| Complied with | ... | .. | ... | ... | 75 | 1 |

12. Wet Fish Shops.

During the year 158 visits were made to these premises. As a result of the special attention paid to the cleansing of empty fish boxes before return to the wholesalers, no complaints or difficulties were experienced. The accumulation of boxes on the premises was also reduced to a minimum and boxes were returned more promptly than in the past.

Twenty six samples of mussels were submitted for bacteriological examination compared with 9 for the previous year. 76% of the samples examined were classified as "unclean," based on the bacteriological standards for shellfish laid down by the Worshipful Company of Fishmongers. These standards are :—

" Consignments yielding 100%, 80% and 60% clean, raise no comments. In the case of lower percentages, isolated bacteriological results are construed in conjunction with the topographical features and the past history of the beds."

All adverse reports were notified to the Medical Officer of Health of the area in which the beds were situated or from which the mussels were supplied.

A sequel to these communications was a visit to this Department of a representative of the Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries Experimental Station, Conway. He also called at the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford, in connection with the same matter.

Three samples of oysters were taken for bacteriological examination and two reported as satisfactory. A sample examined from a consignment suspected to be the cause of a case of food poisoning was 100% sterile.

13. Fish and Chip Shops.

A total of 646 inspections were made during the year. Many improvements were effected, particularly in the older type of establishment. Reconstruction of food preparation rooms, where possible, has been carried out and old and worn equipment replaced. New and additional sinks, tiling or cement rendering of walls, provision of constant hot water supplies and relaying of floors were among the many improvements to be noted. As a result of notices served three detached food preparation rooms of brick construction were provided. Two businesses were established and two discontinued, leaving the number operating within the borough the same as 1950, i.e., 80. Equipment installed in the newly opened shops was of the latest type and the pans were electrically heated.

14. Mobile Fish and Chip Shops.

There was no change in the number of mobile fish and chip shops operating within the borough. A close check was kept on all these vehicles and regular inspections made of the food preparation rooms. Improvements effected as a result of notices served included the cement rendering of internal wall surfaces, relaying of floors and provision of constant supplies of hot water. Several complaints were made in respect of two vans operating from the same address ; investigations showed little justification for the complaints from a public health point of view. During the latter part of the year one of these vans moved to another area ; the other discontinued operations and the vehicle was advertised for sale.

15. Registration of Butchers' Shops and Premises where Preserved Food, etc., is prepared or manufactured.

Ten applications were received in accordance with Section 67 of the Wolverhampton Corporation Act, 1936, for the registration of the persons concerned and their premises for the sale or storage of meat.

Eight applications were received in accordance with Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, for the registration

of premises where preserved food, etc., is prepared or manufactured.

The applications were in order and the persons and/or the premises were registered.

The following tables summarise the notices served and the inspections made :—

BUTCHERS' SHOPS.

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 16 | — |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 23 | — |
| No. of Persons and Premises on Register | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 178 |
| No. of Inspections of Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 696 |

PREMISES WHERE PRESERVED FOOD Etc., IS PREPARED OR MANUFACTURED.

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 7 | — |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 8 | — |
| No. of Premises on Register | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 44 |
| No. of Inspections of Premises | ... | ... | ... | ... | ... | 230 |

16. Licensed Premises.

A total of 459 visits has been paid to inns and off-licence premises during the course of the year.

The question of adequate hot water supplies was again pursued and as a result a further 17 gas or electrically operated calorifiers have been installed to replace or augment back-boilers, thereby ensuring the supply of hot water throughout the year.

Systematic swabbing of beer glasses was instituted during the year and these swabs were submitted for bacteriological examination by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Stafford. Two tests were carried out, firstly a total plate count and secondly a B. Coli count in one millilitre.

A standard of less than 100 colonies per utensil and the absence of B. Coli in one millilitre was considered satisfactory and based on this criteria 68 of the 112 swabs taken were found

to be satisfactory. Repeat samples were taken from the 44 unsatisfactory sources and in each instance improvement was noted. The following table summarises the notices served :—

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 41 | — |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 45 | — |

17. Bakehouses.

Regular routine inspections involving 214 visits were made during the year to the 43 bakehouses situated within the borough. The number of bakehouses shows a decrease of 3 compared with 1950, 4 bakehouses having closed and one having been opened during this period. In 18 cases inspections revealed defects necessitating the service of informal notices.

Four complaints were received and investigated. All were in respect of the presence of extraneous matter in bread and cakes. In one case, alleging the presence of “cinders” in an Eccles cake, confirmation was not possible, the cake not being available for examination. As, however, no solid fuel is used at the bakery concerned, the possibility of contamination by this means could be excluded. The three other complaints concerned a bakery situated outside the borough and included the presence of machine oil, a paper tally and a used bandage in the bread. In the two former cases the owners were warned verbally and by letter, and but for the unwillingness of the complainant to give evidence in the case of the paper tally, legal action would have been taken. Proceedings are pending in the case of the used bandage.

The following table summarises the notices served :—

| | | | | | Intimation. | Statutory. |
|---------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-------------|------------|
| Served | ... | ... | ... | ... | 18 | — |
| Complied with | ... | ... | ... | ... | 6 | — |

F. BINNS HARTLEY,

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

